

COUNTY BOROUGH OF ST. HELENS.



Annual Report
OF THE
Medical Officer of Health
FOR
THE YEAR 1940

FRANK HAUXWELL, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.,
Medical Officer of Health
and School Medical Officer.

St. Helens:

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Health Committee.

Chairman :

ALDERMAN T. HAMBLETT, J.P.

Deputy-Chairman :

COUNCILLOR EVELYN PILKINGTON, C.B.E., J.P.

THE RIGHT WORSHIPFUL THE MAYOR

(Alderman W. Burrows, J.P.).

ALDERMAN R. ELLISON, J.P.

„ J. C. SIMM, J.P.

„ J. THACKRAY, J.P.

COUNCILLOR N. BIRCH, J.P.

„ E. HOUGHTON, J.P.

„ F. A. LITHERLAND, J.P.

„ ELLEN MCCORMACK.

„ M. MCFARLANE, J.P.

„ R. RENNIE.

„ M. A. SHARD, J.P.

„ T. WOODS, J.P.

Maternity and Child Welfare Committee.

Chairman :

ALDERMAN T. HAMBLETT, J.P.

Deputy Chairman :

COUNCILLOR EVELYN PILKINGTON, C.B.E., J.P.

THE HEALTH COMMITTEE,

and the following co-opted members :—

MRS. H. B. BATES, AND

MRS. B. MCGHIE.

TO THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS OF
THE COUNTY BOROUGH OF ST. HELENS.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report on the health of St. Helens for 1940.

As with the Report for 1939 the Report this year has again been considerably curtailed whilst retaining the more important statistics and tables for record purposes.

Despite the strain and stress associated with the first year of the war, the Report can, I think, on the whole be considered satisfactory.

That there should be an increase in the death rate is not unexpected when one considers that the reduction in population as estimated by the Registrar General is to a very large extent due to the large number of physically fit adults who have left the town to join the various Services. War strain is also bound to have an effect.

The infant mortality showed a small decrease during the year from 79.5 per 1,000 births in 1939 to 78.2 in 1940. This mortality is, however, still high and stresses the importance of maintaining the Maternity and Child Welfare and Health Visiting Services at their highest standard.

Despite the greatly increased duties thrown on the Department by civil defence and other war time duties, and the constant changes in staff occasioned by the calling up of various members for duty with the Services, there has been practically no reduction in the work of the health services and in the various sections of the Report will be found a record of the considerable activities of the Department. That it has been possible to do so is entirely due to

the ever willing and cheerful assistance given by every member of the staff to whom I take this opportunity of recording my deep appreciation and thanks.

I would also take the opportunity of thanking the Members of the Council for their help and consideration in the conduct of my work.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

FRANK HAUXWELL.

September, 1941.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area (Acres)	7,950
Estimated Civilian Population mid-year 1940	103,300
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1940) according to Rate Books	26,740
Rateable Value	£488,102
Product of a penny rate	£1,871

STAFF.

Medical Officer of Health, Administrative Tuberculosis Officer,
Medical Superintendent of Corporation Hospitals, and School
Medical Officer :

Frank Hauxwell, M.B., Ch.B. (Glasgow), D.P.H. (Camb.)

Deputy Medical Officer of Health :

Gerald O'Brien, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H. (St. Andrew's).

Assistant Medical Officers of Health :

Harold C. Calvey, M.B., Ch.B. (Liverpool), D.P.H. (Manchester). (On Service with H.M. Forces).

Enid M. Hughes, M.B., Ch.B. (Liverpool).

Ronald G. Smithson, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H. (Resigned
September, 1940).

Justin F. Martin, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O. (N.U.I.), D.P.H.
(From November, 1940).

Jean M. Barrowman, M.B., Ch.B. (Glasgow). (Resigned
May, 1940).

Mary J. Darby, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O. (Belfast). (From
July, 1940).

Wladimir Griffel, M.D. (Vienna), L.R.C.P. and S. (Edin.),
L.R.F.P.S. (Glasgow). (Temporary).

Dental Surgeons :

Vincent Higham, L.D.S.

Arthur N. Leicester, B.D.S. (On Service with H.M. Forces).

Jean M. Simpkin, L.D.S.

Mary G. Cowper, L.D.S. (Temporary).

Sanitary Inspectors, etc. :

Ernest Sefton (1), (3), (7), (8),	Chief Sanitary Inspector.
W. H. Ball (2), (3), (9),	Deputy Chief Sanitary Inspector.
H. Lowe (2), (5)	Sanitary Inspector.
W. A. Young (2), (3), (9)	do.
J. G. Clements (2), (3), (5), (9)	do.
A. H. Jenkins (1), (3)	do.
G. A. Evans (2), (9) (on Service with H.M. Forces)	do.
F. Allender (2), (3), (5), (9), (10)	do.
J. H. Buchanan (4), (9)	do.
N. H. Owen (2), (5),	Superintendent of Public Abattoir.

Matrons of Corporation Hospitals :

Kathleen Florence Johns,	Borough Isolation Hospital.
Emily Lees,	Eccleston Hall Sanatorium.
Edith Ellen Sansbury,	St. Helens Maternity and Child Welfare Hospital.

Health Visitors and School Nurses :

Superintendent :—Mary I. J. Abraham (11), (12), (13), (15).

Ethel Denman	(1), (14), (15)	*May Tonge	(11), (12), (15)
Mary Riding	(12), (15)	Florence Middlehurst	
Emily Corrish	(12), (15)		(11), (12), (15)
Nora Hogan	(12), (15)	Sophia McConnell	(12), (15)
Mary Corrish	(12), (15)	Elsie Cornish	(11), (12), (15)
Alice Happold	(12), (15)	Margt. A. Brown	
Edith Curran	(12), (15)		(11), (12), (13), (15)
Louisa Peace	(12), (15)	Hilda Yorke	(11), (12), (13), (15)
Caroline Good	(12), (15)		

Pupil Health Visitors :

Winifred M. Chune	(12), (15)	Eileen Search	(12), (13), (15)
Winifred Henry	(12), (13), (15)	Louie Wright	(12), (13), (15)

Orthopaedic Nurses :

*Winifred M. Russell	(16)
E. M. Riordan	(16)

Tuberculosis Nurse :

Sarah A. T. Prescott (12), (15)

Clerk Dispenser and Venereal Diseases Attendant :

Jas. McP. Hutton.

Venereal Diseases Nurse :

Florence Wilkinson (12)

*Resigned during the year.

- (1) Sanitary Inspector's Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute.
- (2) Sanitary Inspector's Certificate of the Liverpool University.
- (3) Certificate for Meat Inspection of the Royal Sanitary Institute.
- (4) Certificate for Meat Inspection of the Royal Sanitary Association of Scotland.
- (5) Certificate for Meat Inspection of the Liverpool University.
- (6) Certificate for Sanitary Science of the Royal Sanitary Institute.
- (7) Diploma of the Institute of Sanitary Engineers.
- (8) Diploma of the Building Surveyor's Association.
- (9) Sanitary Inspector's Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute and Sanitary Inspectors' Examination Joint Board.
- (10) Certificate for Smoke Abatement of the Royal Sanitary Institute.
- (11) New Health Visitor's Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute.
- (12) General Trained Nurse.
- (13) Fever Trained Nurse.
- (14) Children's Trained Nurse.
- (15) State Certified Midwife.
- (16) Certificate of the Chartered Society of Massage and Medical Gymnastics.

The following are part-time officers :—

District Medical Officers :—I. Rosen, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S. ;
 H. A. Lomax, M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. ;
 J. A. Donnellan, M.B., Ch.B. ;
 T. R. O'Keeffe, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., L.R.F.P.S. ;
 J. G. O'Keeffe, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., L.R.F.P.S.

Public Vaccinators :—T. R. O'Keeffe, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S.,
 L.R.F.P.S.

J. S. Fox, M.B., C.M., M.R.C.S. ;
 J. G. O'Keeffe, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., L.R.F.P.S.

Physician to the X-ray Department, Tuberculosis Dispensary :
 J. Unsworth, M.B., B.S. (Lond.).

Orthopaedic Surgeon :—B. L. McFarland, M.D. (Liverp.),
 M.Ch. (Orth.), M.B., Ch.B., F.R.C.S. (Edin.).

Ophthalmic Surgeon :—E. Allan, M.B., Ch.B. (Edin.).

Ear, Throat and Nose Surgeon :—J. E. G. McGibbon, M.B., B.S. (Lond.), D.L.O. (Eng.). (On Service with H.M. Forces).

W. E. Hunter, M.R.C.S. (Eng.), L.R.C.P. (Lond.). (Temporary).

Obstetrician and Gynaecologist:—J. W. Burns, M.D. (Dublin), B.A., M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., F.R.C.S. (Edin.).

Speech Therapist :—Muriel W. Ferrie, M.S.S.T.

Public Analyst :—Herbert J. Evans, B.Sc., F.I.C., F.C.S.

Veterinary Inspector :—A. H. Leyland, M.R.C.V.S.

1.—NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

SOCIAL CONDITIONS.—The chief industries of the town are coal mining and glass making.

The average number of persons unemployed in St. Helens and registered at the Labour Exchange during 1940 (as shown by the figures taken on Monday of each week) was 1,777 men, 712 women, and 201 juveniles (total 2,690). The largest number of unemployed men and women was 4,417 in January and among juveniles 404 in February. The total for 1940 shows a decrease from the previous year, when the average total number of unemployed persons was 6,341.

The total amount of domiciliary relief granted in St. Helens by the Public Assistance Committee during the year ended 31st March, 1941, was £67,559/2/11d., of which sum £2,198/1/4d. was granted to unemployed men and their families. The corresponding amounts granted in the previous year were £91,318/11/3d. and £4,297/6/9d. respectively.

From St. Helens 313 men, 301 women and 167 children were admitted to the Poor Law Infirmary, and 64 men, 31 women and 27 children were admitted to the "House" during the year.

Under the National Health Insurance Act, the total number of insured persons in St. Helens on 1st October, 1940, was 48,400, comprising 34,715 men and 13,685 women, or approximately 47% of the total civilian population. The corresponding figures for 1939 were 36,805 men and 12,309 women.

METEOROLOGY.—The total rainfall for the year, as measured at the Victoria Park Observatory, was 33.69 inches. The amount of rainfall recorded at Eccleston Hill Waterworks during the year was 29.75 inches.

The sunshine recorder at the Victoria Park Observatory recorded 1,279 hours of sunshine during 1940. The greatest duration of sunshine on any one day was 14 hours on 6th, 9th, 10th, 15th and 18th June. There were 109 sunless days during the year.

The highest temperature in the shade during the year was on the 8th June when it reached 84° F., and the lowest was 14.6° F. on the 17th January.

The special gauge maintained in the centre of the town for the collection and measurement of the amount of atmospheric pollution showed the total solids deposited in St. Helens from the atmosphere during the year ending the 31st March, 1941, to be 14,405 metric tons per 100 square kilometres, or approximately 1,286 pounds per acre.

II.—VITAL STATISTICS.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR :

	M.	F.	Total.
Live Births:—Legitimate.....	929	888	1,817
Illegitimate	26	18	44
Totals	955	906	1,861

Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated civilian population.....18.0
 Still Births :—M. 42, F. 55 ; Total : 97.

Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births.....49.5

Deaths :—M. 752, F. 637 ; Total : 1,389.

Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated civilian population.....13.4
Death Rate per 1,000 adjusted to correspond for age and sex
distribution with England and Wales as a whole 16.1

Number of women dying from diseases and accidents of pregnancy
and childbirth :—

	Deaths	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births.
From sepsis	—	—
From other maternal causes	2	1.02
Totals	2	1.02

Deaths of infants under one year of age :—

	M.	F.	Total.
Legitimate	93	49	142
Illegitimate	2	2	4
Totals	95	51	146

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age :—

All infants per 1,000 live births 78.2
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births 77.9
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births 90.9

Deaths from Measles (all ages)	10
„ Whooping Cough (all ages)	5
„ Diarrhœa (under 2 years of age)	8
„ Tuberculosis	79
Zymotic Death Rate	0.41

POPULATION.—According to the Registrar General’s estimate the mid-1940 civilian population was 103,300. This represents a decrease of 3,900 from the estimated mid-year population for 1938, the decrease being attributed to the large movements of

population that have occurred since the outbreak of war. Against these figures it may be noted that the natural increase of population, i.e., the excess of births over deaths, was 472 in 1940 and 621 in 1939.

BIRTHS.—As in the previous year two figures are given for the number of births belonging to St. Helens. These are

- (a) The number of births upon which the birth rate is calculated. This is the total number of births amongst mothers whose usual place of residence is St. Helens, whether the birth occurred in St. Helens or not. According to the Registrar General's assignment the number of births in this category assignable to St. Helens for 1940 was 1,861.
- (b) The number of births upon which the infant and maternal mortalities are calculated. In this case births are assigned to the area in which the mother may be temporarily residing as a result of the war. According to this assignment the number of births assignable to St. Helens for 1940 was 1,867.

The birth rate for the year calculated as above was 18.0 per 1,000 of the population as compared with 17.3 for the previous year. Illegitimate births were 2.4% of the total.

DEATHS.—The number of civilian deaths assigned to St. Helens for the year was 1,389. In calculating this figure allowance has been made, as in the case of births, for the persons temporarily residing away from home on account of the war. In such cases the death is not assigned to the area of usual residence, but is assigned to the area of temporary residence. The crude death rate for the borough for 1940 was 13.4 per 1,000 of the civilian population, as compared with 11.6 per 1,000 for 1939. The adjusted death rate (that is the crude death rate adjusted to a figure which represents the rate of mortality that would have occurred if the age and the sex distribution in St. Helens had been the same as that of England and Wales as a whole), was 16.1 as compared with 14.3 for the previous year. The death rate for England and Wales as a whole for 1940 was 14.3.

Table 1.
Causes of, and ages at, death during 1940.

Causes of Death	Sex	All Ages	At Ages					
			0—1	1—	5—	15—	45—	65—
All Causes	M F	752 637	95 51	25 28	17 23	89 82	242 150	284 303
Typhoid and parat. fevers	M F	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —
Cerebro-spinal fever	M F	6 1	— —	1 —	2 —	2 1	1 —	— —
Scarlet Fever	M F	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —
Whooping Cough	M F	3 2	3 2	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —
Diphtheria	M F	11 8	— —	5 2	5 6	1 —	— —	— —
Tub. of resp. sys.	M F	42 25	— —	— —	— 1	17 15	23 8	2 1
Other forms of tuberculosis	M F	7 5	3 1	2 —	— —	1 3	1 1	— —
Syphilitic diseases	M F	5 —	— —	— —	— —	2 —	2 —	1 —
Influenza	M F	21 14	— 1	1 3	— —	3 1	10 1	7 8
Measles	M F	4 6	— —	3 6	1 —	— —	— —	— —
Ac. polio-myel. and polio-enceph.	M F	— 1	— —	— —	— —	— 1	— —	— —
Ac. inf. enceph.	M F	1 1	— —	— —	— —	1 —	— 1	— —
Cancer of buc. cav and Oesoph. (M.), uterus (F.)	M F	12 9	— —	— —	— —	— 1	3 7	9 1
Cancer of stomach and duodenum	M F	9 13	— —	— —	— —	— —	5 1	4 12
Cancer of breast	M F	— 15	— —	— —	— —	— 1	— 13	— 1
Cancer of all other sites	M F	42 36	— —	— —	— —	5 4	18 15	19 17
Diabetes	M F	7 12	— —	— —	— —	2 —	1 8	4 4
Intracranial vascular lesions	M F	43 58	— —	— —	1 —	1 2	17 13	24 43
Heart Disease	M F	147 134	— —	— —	1 3	14 7	56 35	76 79
Other diseases of circ. system	M F	23 10	— —	— —	— —	— 1	5 —	18 9
Bronchitis	M F	67 72	5 2	2 2	— —	4 5	25 13	31 50
Pneumonia	M F	52 44	17 13	7 8	2 2	4 7	16 5	6 9
Other respiratory diseases	M F	9 5	— —	— —	— —	1 —	4 3	4 2

Table 1 —continued.

Causes of Death	Sex	All Ages	At Ages					
			0—1	1—	5—	15—	45—	65—
Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	M F	10 3	— —	— —	— —	2 —	8 2	— 1
Diarrhoea under 2 years	M F	3 5	3 5	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —
Appendicitis	M F	4 4	— —	— —	2 2	1 —	1 2	— —
Other digestive disorders	M F	14 10	6 1	1 —	— —	1 —	3 3	3 6
Nephritis	M F	12 11	— —	— —	— —	2 4	5 3	5 4
Puer. and post-abort. sepsis	M F	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —
Other maternal causes	M F	— 2	— —	— —	— —	— 2	— —	— —
Prem. birth	M F	18 10	18 10	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —
Con. mal. birth inj. infant dis.	M F	31 13	31 10	— 1	— 1	— 1	— —	— —
Suicide	M F	5 1	— —	— —	— —	— 1	2 —	3 —
Road traffic acc.	M F	16 4	— —	1 1	1 1	3 2	6 —	5 —
Other violent causes	M F	33 15	3 —	1 2	1 2	11 2	13 4	4 5
All other causes	M F	95 88	6 6	1 3	1 5	11 11	17 12	59 51
Totals		1389	146	53	40	171	392	587

Coroner's Inquests.—During the year, 141 deaths were reported to the Coroner. In 70 of these the Coroner was able without an inquest to issue a certificate attributing the death to natural causes. In 71 instances where inquests were held, the deaths were recorded as attributable to :—

Colliery accidents	9
Street accidents	17
Accidents in works	3
Drowning	2
Poisoning	7
Scalds and burns	5
Other deaths from violence	17
Natural causes	5
Other causes	6
	71

Causes of Death.—Figures relating to the causes of, and ages at, death during the year are given in Table 1.

Deaths from Tuberculosis.—Tuberculosis was the cause of 79 deaths during the year—that is 5.69% of all deaths belonging to the borough. Of these deaths, 67 were attributable to tuberculosis of the lungs and 12 to other forms of tuberculosis. The ages at which these deaths occurred are shown in Table 1.

Malignant Diseases.—The deaths from these diseases during the past five years were as follows :—

AGE				1936	1937	1938	1939	1940
Under 1 year	.....	.....	.....	—	—	—	—	—
1—5 years	.....	.....	.....	—	1	—	—	—
5—15	„	.....	.....	—	—	—	—	—
15—45	„	.....	.....	12	13	15	9	11
45—65	„	.....	.....	71	60	65	58	62
65 and over	.....	.....	.....	60	70	75	63	63
Totals				143	144	155	130	136
Percentage of the total deaths				10.91	11.05	12.67	10.50	9.79
Death rate per 1,000 of population				1.32	1.34	1.45	1.22	1.32
Death rate per 1,000 of population, England and Wales				1.62	1.63	1.66	1.67	1.72

There would appear to be no relationship between the incidence of malignant diseases and industrial processes in St. Helens.

There were no alterations in the treatment facilities during 1940.

Infant Mortality.—During 1940 there were 146 deaths of children under one year of age. This corresponds to an infant mortality rate of 78.2 per 1,000 births. The infant death rate for 1939 was 79.5.

Further reference to this subject is made in the Maternity and Child Welfare Section.

III.—INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.—The outstanding features of the year were the marked incidence of both measles and cerebro-spinal fever, whereas scarlet fever, which had been very prevalent during 1939, showed very considerable decrease. There was a slight increase in the number of cases of whooping cough. The measles epidemic lasted throughout practically the whole year, and though cerebro-spinal fever never showed signs of epidemic occurrence there was a steady incidence throughout the year.

Table 2 shows the total number of cases notified during the year, the total number of deaths which occurred, and the numbers admitted to the Corporation Hospitals.

Table 3 gives the age distribution of the cases notified, and Table 1 the age distribution of the deaths which occurred. The number of cases notified during each week of the year is shown in Table 4, and the number of notifications each year during the past 10 years is seen in Table 5.

Table 2.

Infectious Diseases, 1940.—Total number of cases notified, number of cases admitted to hospital, and the total deaths.

DISEASE	Notifications received	Cases admitted to hospital	Total Deaths
Smallpox	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	221	206	—
Diphtheria	287	287	18
Measles	3057	27	3
Whooping Cough	403	2	3
Enteric Fever	—	—	—
Dysentery	9	—	—
Erysipelas	34	4	1
Pneumonia	123	3	20
Typhus Fever	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	15	8	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	9	—	—
Poliomyelitis	1	1	1
Polio-Encephalitis	1	—	1
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	45	40	7
Malaria	—	—	—

Table 3.

Age distribution of cases of Infectious Diseases notified during 1940.

DISEASE	Notifications received.	Under 1	1—	2—	3—	4—	5—	10—	15—	20—	35—	45—	65—
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	221	3	7	13	28	17	93	38	9	11	2	—	—
Diphtheria	287	—	9	17	17	21	130	59	19	11	3	1	—
Measles	3057	138	243	336	366	378	1388	149	34	22	1	1	1
Whooping Cough	403	29	49	42	64	44	168	7	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	2	2	1
Erysipelas	34	1	—	—	—	—	2	1	1	2	4	18	5
Pneumonia	123	12	6	2	8	5	12	8	4	19	4	23	10
Typhus Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	11	3	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	9	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Encephalitis Lethargica	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	45	1	—	1	—	5	15	5	5	7	4	2	—
Malaria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

SMALLPOX.—No case of smallpox was notified during the year.

SCARLET FEVER.—Little comment need be made except to record a very satisfactory decrease in the number of cases compared with the previous year. The number notified, 221, was the lowest recorded since 1932. There were no deaths.

The average duration of stay in hospital of all cases was 35.5 days.

During the year two cases developed mastoiditis and were successfully operated on.

Table 4.

Infectious Diseases.—Number of cases of Infectious Diseases notified each week in 1940.

Week Ending	Smallpox	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Measles	Whooping Cough	Enteric Fever	Dysentery	Erysipelas	Pneumonia	Typhus Fever	Puerperal Pyrexia	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Poliomyelitis	Encephalitis Lethargica	Cerebro-Spinal Fever
Jan. 6	—	10	4	38	2	—	—	—	4	—	1	—	—	—	—
„ 13	—	7	3	66	—	—	—	—	7	—	2	—	—	—	—
„ 20	—	7	5	42	2	—	—	1	3	—	1	—	—	—	—
„ 27	—	5	6	41	1	—	—	2	5	—	—	—	—	—	—
Feb. 3	—	5	3	58	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
„ 10	—	10	2	97	1	—	—	—	8	—	1	—	—	—	—
„ 17	—	4	4	49	2	—	—	1	5	—	—	—	—	—	—
„ 24	—	8	6	74	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Mar. 2	—	4	3	65	3	—	—	—	6	—	—	—	—	—	—
„ 9	—	8	7	67	1	—	—	1	9	—	1	1	—	—	—
„ 16	—	8	5	74	3	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
„ 23	—	9	4	93	3	—	—	—	2	—	—	1	—	—	—
„ 30	—	2	1	117	2	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
Apl. 6	—	2	7	56	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	1	—	—	—
„ 13	—	2	8	94	3	—	—	1	3	—	1	—	—	—	—
„ 20	—	3	4	76	3	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
„ 27	—	5	3	72	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
May 4	—	5	1	54	—	—	—	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
„ 11	—	4	3	71	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
„ 18	—	4	5	67	3	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
„ 25	—	1	5	66	2	—	—	—	2	—	1	—	—	—	—
June 1	—	5	2	85	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
„ 8	—	2	5	76	1	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
„ 15	—	2	7	73	1	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
„ 22	—	4	—	104	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
„ 29	—	3	4	93	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
July 6	—	3	4	84	—	—	—	2	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
„ 13	—	4	7	66	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
„ 20	—	3	—	85	4	—	—	2	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
„ 27	—	3	2	75	1	—	—	1	1	—	—	2	—	—	—
Aug. 3	—	2	2	68	1	—	—	1	2	—	—	1	—	—	—
„ 10	—	8	3	45	7	—	—	—	2	—	2	1	—	—	—
„ 17	—	4	8	25	5	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
„ 24	—	5	3	36	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
„ 31	—	1	5	17	10	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sept. 7	—	2	11	40	7	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
„ 14	—	2	4	30	4	—	—	3	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
„ 21	—	3	8	51	4	—	—	—	2	—	—	1	—	—	—
„ 28	—	5	5	65	9	—	—	1	4	—	—	—	—	—	—
Oct. 5	—	7	13	104	5	—	—	1	6	—	—	—	—	—	—
„ 12	—	5	7	59	6	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—
„ 19	—	7	16	65	6	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
„ 26	—	2	8	27	13	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Nov. 2	—	4	12	33	12	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
„ 9	—	1	8	33	35	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
„ 16	—	3	8	47	8	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
„ 23	—	3	7	46	30	—	—	—	3	—	1	—	—	—	—
„ 30	—	3	9	27	41	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dec. 7	—	1	10	7	53	—	—	1	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
„ 14	—	5	3	15	48	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2
„ 21	—	1	9	21	42	—	—	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
„ 28	—	5	8	18	10	—	—	1	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	—	221	287	3057	403	—	9	34	123	—	15	9	1	1	45

Table 5.
Notification of Infectious Diseases received during the
undermentioned years.

	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	148	147	281	286	543	590	671	577	995	221
Diphtheria	121	86	203	231	225	482	463	437	479	287
Measles	2332	512	4092	1177	1416	1569	992	1776	265	3057
Whooping Cough	43	394	1580	185	1032	102	880	500	361	403
Enteric Fever	1	—	11	2	2	1	2	1	1	—
Dysentery	—	15	1	1	—	10	3	19	—	9
Erysipelas	52	58	80	77	70	92	63	53	46	34
Pneumonia	226	308	469	234	295	307	275	128	118	123
Typhus Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Fever	7	6	2	10	9	8	7	}31	32	15
Puerperal Pyrexia	8	8	12	19	14	17	29			
Ophthalmia										
Neonatorum	3	7	6	7	14	12	8	8	7	9
Poliomyelitis.....	—	—	12	—	1	1	2	2	4	1
Encephalitis										
Lethargica	1	1	1	1	2	2	—	—	1	1
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	—	17	10	—	1	2	3	3	5	45
Malaria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

DIPHTHERIA.—There was also a distinct lessening in the incidence of diphtheria during the year.

The following statement shows the age distribution of the cases occurring and of the deaths :—

<i>Age</i>	<i>No. of Cases</i>	<i>No. of Deaths</i>	<i>Case Mortality</i>
Under 5 years	64	7	10.9%
5—15 years	189	10	5.3%
15—45 years	33	1	3.0%
Over 45 years	1	—	—

A very welcome sign was the slow but continued rise in the numbers of children being immunised.

The following figures show the work carried out at the Immunisation Clinic during 1940 as compared with 1939.

	1939	1940
No. of children tested as to susceptibility	323	473
No. of children immunised	662	740
No. of children who failed to complete the immunisation treatment	46	49
Total attendances at the Clinic	2685	3360

These figures do not include cases immunised by private practitioners, but it is believed that such are relatively very small.

During the year the Ministry of Health issued two circulars urging the importance of diphtheria immunisation to meet increased risks arising out of war conditions. The whole of the scheme for immunisation and for the propaganda connected with it was therefore reviewed during the year, and the following special report dealing with the subject was prepared and submitted at the beginning of the current year.

Report by the Medical Officer of Health.

“ The service of Immunisation against Diphtheria was instituted by the Health Department in St. Helens in 1934. Two sessions weekly, at a Central Clinic, offered free Immunisation facilities to the general public, and propaganda on general lines was carried out amongst parents, based mainly on public talks, lectures at clinics, district work by Health Visitors and school work by School Nurses. The response to this has been very disappointing as may be seen by the following figures, which show the total numbers of children immunised during the years from 1935 onwards. It may also be noted here that the majority of these children were over 5 years of age.

1935	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940
305	552	556	178	708	789

“ In accordance with Circular 2230 of the Ministry, therefore, the following steps have been taken to re-inforce the existing scheme and in future to expand the existing service in various ways.

Particular Approach.

“ 1. An organisation has been set up whereby the parents of each child in the town receive a propaganda leaflet (containing a form on which consent to immunisation can be registered) on the first birthday of the child. This leaflet is followed up, within a

few days, by a visit from a Health Visitor. The purpose of this visit is to advise and obtain consent to immunisation if this has not already been given, and if consent is not forthcoming, to ascertain the reason for refusal in order that future action can be directed towards the overcoming of any particular prejudice. During the operation of this scheme for a period of 4 weeks, the percentage of acceptance for a total number of 130 children of 1 year, who were circularised, was 41.5%. Although not entirely satisfactory, this figure shows a decided advance on previous responses.

“ It should also be pointed out that this method of approach to the parents provides an opportunity for the Health Visitor to obtain consent for immunisation for other children in the family on the occasion of her visit. In other words, the method obtains a response, covering not only one age group, but all ages up to adolescence.

“ 2. Increased time has been devoted for propaganda work in Toddlers' Clinics and Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics, thus covering all age groups up to 5 years.

“ 3. It is intended to circularise the parents of all school entrants (i.e. 5 year old children) prior to the occasion of the routine medical examination in school. The propaganda forms will be followed up by a talk from the School Nurse and Medical Officer when the parent subsequently visits the school on the occasion of the examination.

“ 4. As regards other age groups, talks will be given by School Medical Officers and School Nurses prior to medical examination in schools, when parents accompanying children are assembled together.

“ 5. More time is to be devoted to propaganda in Inspection Clinics, Minor Ailment Clinics and all treatment clinics under the School Medical Service.

General Approach.

“ 1. Public lectures in the Borough have, in the past, not met with enthusiastic response from parents, nor are conditions at the present time favourable to meetings in public halls. Where gatherings of parents, however, are already assembled, e.g. treatment clinics and possibly public meetings of other types, an attempt will be made to arouse interest by means of displaying a film. This is a propaganda film entitled “The Empty Bed,” a copy of which we are fortunate to possess.

“ 1. During the past month all public boards in the Borough coming under the control of the Health Department (e.g. old Empire Marketing Boards) have been given over to a Diphtheria Immunisation poster display, the posters being issued by the Central Council of the Health Education.

“ 3. A circular letter is being addressed to all practitioners in the Borough asking for their assistance in the work of general propaganda, also revising and renewing the offer from the Health Department of a free supply of immunising material which has always been available for their own use if they wish to carry out their own immunisations. For this latter purpose the Local Authority are still bearing the cost of issuing practitioners with T.A.F. outfits (containing 3-1 c.c. phials), as there seems to be a danger of waste with A.P.T. unless the general practitioner can ensure that a large number of children can be immunised simultaneously in his practice.

“ 4. The interest of the local Press is being obtained for propaganda work, and in the Borough this has been agreed to by the local papers following the general request of the Ministry to the Press of the country.

Increased Facilities.

“ As was stated at the beginning of this report, two sessions weekly at a Central Clinic have been, and are at present, devoted to the work of Immunisation. The appointment of an extra Medical

Officer to the staff of the School Medical Service, which will shortly be made, will, however, afford scope for additional Immunisation facilities. It is hoped then to have weekly sessions at at least two district clinics, so that difficulties of travel to the Central Immunising Clinic will be obviated."

For the treatment of diphtheria, antitoxin is available, without charge, for medical practitioners, either at the office of the Medical Officer of Health or at the Borough Isolation Hospital. During the past year considerable use has been made of this service.

ENTERIC FEVER.—No cases were notified during the year.

MEASLES.—Late spring, summer and autumn were the periods of epidemic prevalence of this disease, which reached its greatest case incidence since 1933. A remarkable fact was the low case mortality, only 3 deaths occurring in 3,057 cases.

The following statement shows the age distribution of the cases and deaths :—

<i>Age</i>	<i>No. of Cases</i>	<i>No. of Deaths</i>	<i>Case Mortality</i>
Under 5 years	1461	2	0.1%
5—15 years	1537	—	—
Over 15 years	59	1	1.7%

During the year the facilities offered by the Corporation were utilised for a limited number of cases. 27 cases (2 of which died) were admitted to the Isolation Hospital, and the District Nurses paid 662 visits to 41 cases for Home Nursing.

WHOOPING COUGH.—The age distribution of cases and deaths during 1940 was as follows :—

<i>Age</i>	<i>No. of Cases</i>	<i>No. of Deaths</i>	<i>Case Mortality</i>
Under 5 years	228	3	1.3%
5—15 years	175	—	—
Over 15 years	—	—	—

PUERPERAL PYREXIA.—15 cases of puerperal pyrexia were notified during the year, but no deaths were reported as due to puerperal sepsis.

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.—9 cases were notified during the year and all recovered with vision unimpaired.

CEREBRO-SPINAL MENINGITIS.—A sharp outbreak of cerebro-spinal fever occurred locally during 1940. Incidence was most acute during March, April and May, but sporadic cases occurred during the months of summer and autumn.

During the year 63 cases were notified, of which 57 were admitted to Peasley Cross Sanatorium. Of these 63 notifications, only 45 were cases of true cerebro-spinal fever, and there were 7 resultant deaths amongst the latter. This represents a mortality rate of 15.5%.

A clinical analysis of the 63 notified cases permitted them to be classified into the following groups :—

Group 1, consisting of 35 cases :

In these cases clinical diagnosis was verified by lumbar puncture. In several instances bacteriologically sterile results were obtained owing to medication by M & B. 693 previous to operation. These cases, however, were classed as meningococcal infection because of the presence of pus cells in the fluid, in conjunction with typical clinical signs of the disease.

Group 2, consisting of 10 cases :

In these cases no lumbar punctures were performed. A group of symptoms was, however, common to all, consisting of severe headache, neck stiffness with head retraction and a positive Kernig sign. In all the cases symptoms disappeared in 24-48 hours after massive doses of M & B.693. They were accepted on clinical grounds as cases of meningococcal infection.

Group 3, consisting of 18 cases :

In none of these was the diagnoses of cerebro-spinal fever confirmed, and further clinical investigation resulted in the following diagnostic findings :—

- 3 Acute lobar pneumonia.
- 2 Infantile convulsions.
- 1 Teething.
- 4 Broncho-pneumonia.
- 1 Meningismus (unknown origin. Lumbar puncture sterile).
- 2 T.B. Meningitis (Verified by guinea pig inoculation).
- 3 Acute influenza.
- 1 Purpura Haemorrhagica.
- 1 Acute Constipation.

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The outstanding feature in treatment of Groups 1 and 2 cases was the dramatic power of the drug M & B.693. Case mortality in Group 1 cases was 20% and in Group 2 was nil. In all cases massive doses were given orally on admission and lumbar puncture performed in Group 1 cases for diagnostic purposes. Thereafter, puncture was only carried out for relief of symptoms and treatment entirely confined to medication by M. & B.693. In several cases the drug was administered intramuscularly with the same success.

ACUTE POLIOMYELITIS.—One case was notified, a child who recovered. One adult died from this disease, but was not notified.

ACUTE ENCEPHALITIS LETHARGICA.—One case was notified during the year, an adult who died.

ACUTE POLIO ENCEPHALITIS.—No cases were notified during the year.

ERYSIPELAS.—During 1940, 34 cases of erysipelas were notified and 1 death was attributed to the disease.

DYSENTERY.—9 cases of dysentery were notified during 1940. All these cases occurred amongst the inmates of the County Mental Hospital, Rainhill.

MALARIA.—No case was notified during the year.

BOROUGH ISOLATION HOSPITAL.—Although the work of the hospital was continuous throughout the year there was a welcome slackening in the number of cases dealt with due to the fall in incidence of scarlet fever and diphtheria. During 1940 the closing of the Cubicle Isolation Block was found necessary, due to the impracticability of protecting it against enemy aerial attack. This limitation of accommodation naturally brought problems in its train, but these were overcome successfully and the work done during the year gives rise to satisfaction.

The details of admissions and discharges are shown in Table 6.

Table 6.

Peasley Cross Isolation Hospital.

Hospital Diagnoses of cases treated during 1940.

DISEASE	In hospital Jan. 1st, 1940	Admitted	Discharged	Died	In hospital Jan. 1st, 1941
Scarlet Fever	49	206	239	—	16
Diphtheria	34	257	234	18	39
Puerperal Fever	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	7	7	—	—
Venereal Disease	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	—	25	23	2	—
Other Diseases	3	175	151	25	2
Mothers with sick babies	—	—	—	—	—
Babies with sick mothers	—	8	8	—	—
Total	86	678	662	45	57

Of the 206 cases of scarlet fever admitted, 8 (3.9%) were return cases.

AMBULANCE PROVISION.—The arrangements for ambulance provision and for the conveyance of bedding, etc., remained as in the previous year. During the year the total distance travelled was 29,061 miles.

DISINFECTION.—During 1940 the disinfection of bedding and premises where cases of measles, German measles, whooping cough, mumps, pneumonia or chicken pox had occurred, was discontinuing. In all these diseases (except chicken pox) authorities are now agreed that infection is almost entirely from case to case and that disinfection serves no useful purpose. In the case of chicken pox, though there is the possibility of conveyance of infection by clothing, toys, etc., it is considered that it is useless disinfecting only in such cases as come to the notice of the department, whilst no action is taken in regard to the large number of unknown cases. In all known cases of these diseases, however, a special leaflet is left by the Health Visitor detailing the precautions to be taken for the prevention of the spread of the infection.

In the other infectious diseases, e.g. scarlet fever, diphtheria, cerebro-spinal fever, etc., disinfection of the premises by means of Formalin sprays is carried out by the disinfectors from the Medical Officer's Department, and bedding and articles of clothing, etc., are disinfected by steam or other appropriate method at the Borough Isolation Hospital. During the year the disinfectors dealt with 2,381 premises and a total of 64,993 articles were disinfected at the Isolation Hospital.

IV.—LABORATORY WORK.

The majority of the routine bacteriological and pathological examinations are carried out by the medical staff at the Borough Laboratory at the Town Hall, but bloods for the Wasserman reaction and specimens of an unusual nature are examined at the City Laboratories, Liverpool. Table 7 shows the numbers of specimens dealt with during 1940.

Table 7.

SPECIMENS.	Number Received	Results	
		Positive	Negative
Swabs for Diphtheria	4796	157	4639
Sputa for Tuberculosis	695	227	468
Hairs for Ringworm	1	—	1
Blood for Wasserman Reaction	186	35	151
Films for Gonococci	194	18	176
Pus and other fluids and discharges for various organisms	65	23	42
Blood for Transfusion Service	19	—	19
Other Specimens	282	57	225
Total	6238	517	5721

Outfits for the collection of specimens of sputa, blood, throat swabs, etc., are supplied free of charge.

Specimens requiring chemical analysis are dealt with by the Public Analyst at his laboratories, and during the past year 330 informal samples of milk were subjected to the Gerber Test at the Borough Laboratory. In 17 of the latter samples the test indicated deficiencies.

V.—TUBERCULOSIS.

INCIDENCE.—During 1940, formal notifications under the Regulations were received in respect of 96 cases of pulmonary and 44 cases of non-pulmonary tuberculosis. In addition 8 cases of pulmonary and 3 cases of non-pulmonary tuberculosis were transferred to St. Helens from other areas.

A further 10 new cases came to the knowledge of the department from the following sources :—

	<i>Pulmonary</i>	<i>Non- Pulmonary</i>
Deaths returns of cases not previously notified	5	1
Posthumous notifications	2	2
	—	—
	7	3
	—	—

The total number of new cases for the year was therefore 161, of which 111 were pulmonary and 50 non-pulmonary.

At the end of 1940 there remained on the Tuberculosis Register 430 cases of pulmonary and 343 cases of non-pulmonary tuberculosis.

The age grouping of the new cases and of the deaths that occurred during the year is shown in Table 8.

Table 8.

Particulars of new cases and of deaths during 1940.

Ages	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females
Under 1 year	—	—	—	2	—	—	3	1
1 to 5 years	1	1	4	3	1	—	2	—
5 to 15 years	6	4	7	13	—	1	—	—
15 to 25 years	14	20	6	4	3	7	1	2
25 to 35 years	10	8	4	3	4	3	—	—
35 to 45 years	11	5	—	1	10	4	—	1
45 to 55 years	14	5	1	—	18	7	1	1
55 to 65 years	8	—	1	1	6	2	—	—
65 —	1	3	—	—	—	1	—	—
Totals	65	46	23	27	42	25	7	5

MORTALITY.—During 1940 there were referable to the Borough 79 deaths from all forms of tuberculosis, giving a tuberculosis death rate of 7.66 per 10,000 of the population. Of these deaths 67 were due to pulmonary tuberculosis and 12 to non-pulmonary tuberculosis.

The ages at which the deaths occurred are shown in Table 8, and the number of deaths and the death rate from each form of the disease since 1912 in Table 9.

Table 9.
Number of cases notified and number of deaths each
year, 1912 to 1940.

Year	No. of Primary notifications received.		Deaths		Death Rate per 10,000 of population	
	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary
1912	130	—	91	65	9.27	6.02
1913	253	164	100	90	10.05	9.0
1914	207	116	113	65	11.2	6.45
1915	203	126	99	56	10.7	6.07
1916	189	137	127	41	14.1	4.5
1917	198	62	121	42	13.3	4.64
1918	144	40	107	34	11.8	3.75
1919	150	56	99	31	9.8	3.08
1920	221	65	82	37	7.9	3.53
1921	179	63	102	32	9.7	3.05
1922	167	58	78	39	7.3	3.66
1923	141	45	85	27	8.0	2.52
1924	154	75	118	27	10.8	2.48
1925	141	88	97	25	8.8	2.28
1926	140	68	91	32	8.2	2.92
1927	129	61	74	22	6.5	1.95
1928	139	68	84	21	7.6	1.90
1929	130	50	91	24	8.3	2.2
1930	119	53	73	26	6.7	2.4
1931	110	67	103	17	9.5	1.6
1932	141	48	72	16	6.7	1.5
1933	107	60	79	11	7.3	1.0
1934	94	40	72	23	6.7	2.1
1935	83	31	65	9	6.0	0.8
1936	75	48	72	7	6.7	0.6
1937	87	46	60	15	5.6	1.4
1938	74	35	57	13	5.3	1.2
1939	57	39	49	21	4.6	1.9
1940	96	44	67	12	6.5	1.2

Comparing the figures shown in Table 9 it will be seen that whereas during 1939 there was maintained the progressive decrease which had been evident over a period of years in both the incidence of and death rate from tuberculosis, there was in 1940 a sharp rise in both incidence and death rate. Compared with the pre-war figures we appear to have slipped back four or five years, and though it is too early to stress this point the parallel with the war years 1914-18 is striking. At the same time, of course, it is to be remembered that the composition of the civilian population during 1940 underwent considerable changes by the withdrawal of so many healthy young adults for military service.

TABLE 10.

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Record of work at or in connection with the Tuberculosis Dispensary during the years 1936—1940.

	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940
1. Cases examined for the first time	222	262	275	232	279
2. New contacts examined for the first time	87	97	83	57	40
3. Cases transferred from other areas or returned after discharge from the Register	2	2	11	10	11
Total	311	361	369	299	330
4. Cases and contacts diagnosed to be tuberculous :					
Pulmonary—Adults	59	69	63	41	75
" Children	4	5	5	5	4
Non-pulmonary—Adults	12	10	11	9	12
" Children	28	22	22	19	18
Total	103	106	101	74	109
5. Contacts diagnosed to be tuberculous (<i>included in item 4</i>)	1	1	1	3	—
6. Removed from Dispensary Register as :—					
Non-tuberculous	199	263	254	221	240
Recovered	37	37	40	25	5
Dead (all causes)	61	53	62	49	51
Transferred to other areas or lost sight of	13	22	13	9	7
Total	310	375	369	304	303
7. "Recovered" cases restored to Register (<i>included in items 1 and 4</i>)	—	—	—	—	—
8. Cases on Dispensary Register on 31st December :—					
Diagnosis completed :					
Pulmonary—Adults	261	258	254	249	222
" Children	137	129	126	124	125
Non-Pulmonary—Adults	53	57	61	63	72
" Children	187	192	194	191	204
Diagnosis not completed :					
Adults	9	8	7	11	21
Children	21	10	12	11	32
Total	668	654	654	649	676
9. Pulmonary cases on Register on 31st December which were T.B.+	132	135	142	139	143
10. Consultations with medical practitioners (personal and other)	128	164	206	187	163
11. Sputum examinations	94	98	121	97	193
12. X-ray examinations	513	637	940	882	1326
13. Home visits by Tuberculosis Officer	115	106	118	86	79
14. Home visits by Nurses or Health Visitors	2096	1713	1476	1313	984
15. Attendances at Dispensary	1723	1368	1575	1327	1000

TUBERCULOSIS DISPENSARY.—The work of the dispensary during the year has for the most part been carried out along the lines established in previous years. A record of the work in connection with the dispensary during the last five years is shown in Table 10. Of the 279 cases examined for the first time during 1940, 141 were referred by medical practitioners, 69 were referred by medical officers of the maternity and child welfare and school medical services, 46 were notified prior to their initial attendances and 23 sought the services of the clinic spontaneously. The percentage of actual cases of tuberculosis seen by the Tuberculosis Officer before notification was 62.4 as compared with 63.4 in 1939. Of the 797 known cases of Tuberculosis in St. Helens 676, or 84.7%, have been seen by the Tuberculosis Officer, and of the 151 new cases in 1940, 109, or 72.2%, were examined by him.

Additional work carried out at the dispensary during the year was the examination, at the request of the medical boards of the Ministry of Labour and National Service, of a number of suspect cases appearing before such boards, and as in previous years a number of radiological examinations were carried out at the request of the Silicosis Board.

Bronchography was performed in nine cases for diagnostic purposes and the final diagnoses in these cases were bronchiectasis 5, carcinoma 3, pulmonary atelectasis 1.

Research work on screen photography is being carried out by the Tuberculosis Officer with a view to the possibility of examining, by this method, various sections of the population, but this work has unfortunately had to be seriously curtailed owing to war conditions.

During 1940 home disinfection of premises and bedding was carried out in 606 instances.

NON-PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS.—Cases of bone and joint tuberculosis in children are treated under the Council's Orthopaedic scheme. Details of these are given in the orthopaedic section of the report. Operative treatment for adult cases is provided at the Royal Southern Hospital, Liverpool, and, during 1940, 4 cases were dealt with at that hospital. In one case, a bone graft was performed with success in a case of tuberculous spine; one case of tuberculosis of the sternum was dealt with and 2 cases went for investigation of the genital-urinary tract.

The arrangements with the Liverpool Corporation for the treatment of cases of lupus at their heliotherapy clinic at the Belmont Road Institution were continued, and three patients received light treatment at that institution with considerable benefit.

At the Cloughton Street Clinic, radio therapy was utilized in 35 cases of tuberculous adenitis and 2 cases of tuberculous skin affections, the attendances totalling 334 in all. In addition 16 cases with discharging sinuses made 651 attendances for special dressings by the Tuberculosis Nurse.

During 1940, patients suffering from the following types of disease received in-patient treatment at various institutions :—

Bones and Joints	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	19
Abdominal	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3
Peripheral Glands	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1

DENTAL TREATMENT.—The arrangements for dental treatment remained as in previous years. During the year 79 patients were treated at Eccleston Hall Sanatorium, and treatment was provided for 8 dispensary cases.

INSTITUTIONAL TREATMENT.—At the Council's Sanatorium at Eccleston Hall there is accommodation for 70 patients, and practically all types of cases, except acute surgical cases, can be dealt with at that Institution. During 1940 an X-ray plant was installed on loan to the Sanatorium, and has provided valuable help in the control of more active forms of treatment.

During the year, 115 patients were admitted to the Sanatorium, 70 were discharged, and 24 died. The average length of stay of the patients who were discharged was 207 days, and of those who died, 175 days. Of the 24 who died, 10 had been in the Sanatorium for less than 8 weeks.

During the year 28 patients were undergoing collapse therapy in the form of artificial pneumothorax. 15 inductions were performed and 1 unsuccessfully attempted. Refills totalled 542, including 200 performed on out-patients. 12 patients received courses of injections of gold salts or calcium, administered either intravenously or intramuscularly. All treatment is controlled by serial X-ray examination and blood sedimentation tests, of which 467 were performed during the year.

During the year increased attention has been paid to the possibility of surgical intervention in chest tuberculosis, and operations were performed, either in one of the local hospitals or in the Liverpool Hospital for Consumption, in 12 cases.

The Sanatorium school provides education for child inmates able to attend, and bedside tuition is given to those medically fit to benefit therefrom.

In addition to the accommodation at the Council's Eccleston Hall Sanatorium, 4 beds are reserved at the Liverpool Sanatorium, Delamere, for early pulmonary cases, and an average of 7 beds are kept in constant use at the Leasowe Open-Air Hospital for Children, for non-pulmonary cases.

VI.—VENEREAL DISEASES.

The arrangements for treatment and for bacteriological examinations of specimens, remained as in previous years.

An analysis of the work carried out, at or in connection with the Venereal Diseases Centre, is shown in Table 11.

The incidence of fresh cases of syphilis amongst males coming under treatment during 1940 showed a record low figure. Amongst females, of 10 new cases under treatment, 4 were of the congenital type and 3 were in late stages.

Similarly the incidence of fresh cases of gonorrhoea dropped to a very low level amongst both males and females.

There thus remains the very satisfactory state of affairs that there was during 1940 no indication of any increase in the incidence of venereal diseases in the town under War conditions.

Record of work carried out at or in connection with the
Venereal Diseases Centre during 1940.

	Syphilis		Soft Chancre		Gonorrhoea		Conditions other than Venereal		Totals		
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	Total
1. Number of cases on 1st January under treatment or observation	9	19	—	—	9	22	—	2	18	43	61
2. Number of cases removed from the register during any previous year which returned during the year under report for treatment or observation of the same infection	2	1	—	—	1	1	—	—	3	2	5
3. Number of cases dealt with for the first time during the year under report (exclusive of cases under Item 4)	2	10	1	—	14	7	7	52	24	69	93
4. Number of cases dealt with for the first time during the year under report known to have received treatment at other Centres for the same infection	3	4	—	—	1	4	—	—	4	8	12
Totals of Items 1, 2, 3 and 4.....	16	34	1	—	25	34	7	54	49	122	171
5. Number of cases discharged after completion of treatment and final tests of cure	—	1	1	—	6	2	5	40	12	43	55
6. Number of cases which ceased to attend before completion of treatment.	3	10	—	—	17	17	—	—	20	27	47
7. Number of cases which ceased to attend after completion of treatment but before final tests of cure	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
8. Number of cases transferred to other centres or to institutions, or to care of private practitioners	3	2	—	—	2	—	2	12	7	12	19
9. Number of cases remaining under treatment or observation on 31st December	10	23	—	—	—	15	—	2	10	40	50
Totals of Items 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9.....	16	34	1	—	25	34	7	54	49	122	171
10. Number of attendances— (a) for individual attention of the medical officers	225	244	5	—	120	106	5	98	355	448	803
(b) for intermediate treatment, e.g., irrigation, dressing	17	—	9	—	451	945	10	158	487	1103	1590
TOTAL ATTENDANCES	242	244	14	—	571	1051	15	256	842	1551	2393

Table 11—continued.

	Syphilis		Soft Chancre		Gonorrhoea		Conditions other than Venereal		Totals		
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	Total
11. In-patients :—											
(a) Total number of persons admitted for treatment during the year	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Aggregate number of "in-patient days" of treatment given	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
12. Number of cases of congenital syphilis in Item 3 above classified according to age periods	Under 1 year		1 and under 5 years		5 and under 15 years		15 years and over		Totals		
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	2	—		4

VII.—NURSING ARRANGEMENTS, HOSPITALS, AND OTHER INSTITUTIONS AVAILABLE FOR THE DISTRICT.

No alterations occurred during the year in the general nursing arrangements or hospital facilities, and these remain as detailed in the Report for 1938.

VIII.—MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

NOTIFICATION OF BIRTHS.—Under the Notification of Births Acts, 1,891 live births and 91 still-births were notified during the year. For these, 1,846 notifications were received from midwives and 136 from doctors. The total number of live births registered as belonging to St. Helens for the year was 1,861 as compared with 1,859 in 1939, and the birth rate for the year was 18.0 per 1,000 of the population as compared with 17.3 per 1,000 during 1939.

INFANT MORTALITY.—During 1940, the deaths of 146 infants under one year of age occurred, giving an infant mortality rate of 78.2 per 1,000 births as compared with 79.5 for the previous year. The infant mortality rate for England and Wales was 55 per 1,000 births, and for the 126 County Boroughs and Great Towns 61 per 1,000 births.

The principal causes of the deaths in 1940 were as follows :—

Congenital debility, malformation and premature birth.....	69
Pneumonia	30
Bronchitis and other respiratory diseases	7
Whooping Cough and Measles	5
Diarrhoea, etc.	8
Other Digestive diseases	7
Influenza	1
Violence	3
Other defined diseases	16
	— —
	146
	— —

Comparing the above figures with the previous year, there has been a decrease in the number of deaths due to congenital conditions, but an increase in the deaths from pneumonia, bronchitis and other respiratory diseases. The latter increase was to a great extent associated with the outbreak of measles which occurred during the year. There was a decrease in the deaths due to diarrhoea and other digestive diseases.

Still-Births.—The number of still-births registered for St. Helens during the year was 97. All the still-births occurring in the borough were notified under the Notification of Births Acts.

From special enquiries made into these still-births it appeared that the principal causes of the still-births were premature birth, toxæmia of pregnancy and breech deliveries. Other causes were malformation of the child, ante-partum hæmorrhage, prolonged or difficult labour and prolapsed cord. In a few cases it was difficult to ascertain the true cause of the still-birth.

Maternal Deaths.—During 1940, 2 deaths were registered as resulting from diseases or accidents of pregnancy. The maternal mortality for the year was, therefore, 1.02 per 1,000 live and still-births. This rate of maternal mortality, as recorded by the Registrar General, is the lowest on record for St. Helens. The deaths were registered as due to (a) Toxæmia of Pregnancy and (b) Eclampsia. Following the procedure adopted in former years special enquiries were made into all deaths occurring in women during pregnancy or after confinement, and in 6 cases it was found that the pregnancy, although not of itself directly the cause of death, undoubtedly bore some relation to the fatal ending of the disease from which the patient suffered. These 6 deaths were registered as :—

- (1) Secondary Anaemia, Mitral Stenosis, Retained Placenta.
- (2) Abortion. Pulmonary Tuberculosis.
- (3) Acute Pneumonia, Chronic Bronchiectasis, Pregnancy terminating in Abortion.
- (4) Broncho-pneumonia, Congestive Cardiac failure, Thyrotoxicosis, Pregnancy of 30 weeks.
- (5) Lobar Pneumonia, Childbirth one week previous to death.
- (6) Myocarditis. Debility following child birth.

These 6 cases, together with the 2 recorded by the Registrar General, bring the total of maternal deaths occurring in St. Helens during 1940 to 8, and the true maternal mortality rate is therefore 4.09.

It is very satisfactory to note that no deaths occurred due to puerperal sepsis during the year.

Infectious Diseases in Mothers and Children.

Puerperal Pyrexia.—During the year 15 cases of puerperal pyrexia were notified. No case developed Septicaemia and no deaths were registered as being due to puerperal sepsis. The final diagnoses of the 15 cases notified were :—

Pneumonia	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2
Localised Pelvic Infection	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	4
Mastitis	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2
Constipation	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2
Acute Bronchitis	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
Rheumatism	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
Phlegmasia Alba Dolens	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
Anaemia	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
Pyelitis	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
								—
								15
								—

The two cases of Pneumonia, one following abortion and the other occurring after normal delivery, ended fatally. All the other cases recovered. During the year 8 patients were treated in the Isolation Hospital and 3 at the St. Helens Hospital. 5 were nursed at home by the District Nursing Association, but 1 of these was later transferred to the Isolation Hospital.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.—9 cases were notified during the year. 8 of these were treated at home under the Council's arrangements with the District Nursing Association and 1 in the Whiston County Hospital. All recovered with vision unimpaired.

Pemphigus.—8 cases of pemphigus neonatorum occurred in 8 midwives' practices and 5 in the Maternity and Child Welfare Hospital.. The 8 cases occurring at home were nursed by the District Nursing Association. All midwives concerned were suspended from duty and their premises, clothing and instruments disinfected.

Other Infectious Diseases.—The following table shows the number of cases of infectious diseases which occurred in children under 5 years of age, and the deaths resulting therefrom.

It will be noted that an epidemic of Measles occurred during the year. The cases were of a mild type and only 2 deaths occurred in the age groups 1—5 years.

Infectious Diseases at ages 0—1 and 1—5 years.

	Under 1 year		1—5 years	
	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths
Scarlet Fever	3	—	65	—
Diphtheria	—	—	64	—
Measles	138	—	1323	2
Whooping Cough	29	3	199	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	9	—	—	—
Erysipelas	1	—	—	—
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	1	—	6	1

Home Nursing and Hospital Arrangements.—The arrangements with the St. Helens and District Nursing Association for the home nursing of cases of whooping cough, measles, ophthalmia neonatorum and pneumonia in young children and of puerperal pyrexia cases remained as in previous years. During 1940 the following cases were attended by district nurses under these arrangements :—

Measles and contacts	44
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	8
Pemphigus and contacts	8
Maternity	32
Puerperal Pyrexia	5
	—
	97
	—

Beds are also available at the Isolation Hospital for cases requiring hospital treatment and during the year 8 cases of puerperal pyrexia, 27 cases of measles, and 2 cases of whooping cough were admitted to that Hospital.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF MIDWIVES.—

During the year only 23 midwives notified their intention to practice within the Borough. 10 of these were in private practice and 13 were municipal midwives. In addition 12 midwives were employed at the Council's Maternity and Child Welfare Hospital and 6 in the Maternity Block of the St. Helens Hospital. Notifications were also received in respect of these.

Inspections of private midwives were carried out on 45 occasions by Medical Officers and the Inspector of Midwives paid 81 routine visits and 36 special visits for the purposes of inspection and supervision. Visits of inspection of the municipal midwives were also made on 20 occasions by Medical Officers and on 211 occasions by the Supervisor.

During the year the private and municipal midwives attended 1,017 cases as midwives and were in attendance on 251 cases as maternity nurses.

In their capacity as midwives they found it necessary to call medical practitioners to their assistance on 318 occasions. The reasons for sending and the number of occasions in which medical assistance was required were as follows :—

Number of cases attended by midwives 1,017

Number and percentage in which medical assistance
was obtained 318 (31.3%)

Reasons for medical assistance :—

(a) For abortions and premature labours	49	(4.8%)
(b) For ante-natal illnesses	9	(0.9%)
(c) For difficult labour	62	(6.1%)
(d) For suturing the perineum, expelling the placenta, excessive haemorrhage, etc.	100	(9.8%)
(e) For post-natal illnesses	35	(3.4%)
(f) For the child	63	(6.2%)

MUNICIPAL MIDWIFERY SERVICE.—The following table gives a summary of the work done by the staff of the Municipal Midwifery Service during 1940 :—

Number of cases attended—	
as midwife	829
as maternity nurse	113
	————— 942
Number of Live Births	881
Number of Still Births.....	39
Number of abortions	31
Number of cases in which midwife sent for medical assistance	256
Supervisor's visits to midwives' homes and inspection of records and equipment	211

The present staff consists of 13 midwives and 1 Supervisor.

The fees charged for this service are the same as those charged by private midwives, and the remission of the whole or part of these fees is allowed in necessitous cases, in accordance with a scale of income adopted by the Council.

HEALTH VISITING.—The following statement shows the visits paid by health visitors during the year.

To expectant mothers :—	
(a) First visits	767
(b) Subsequent visits	1,355
To infants under one year :—	
(a) First visits	1,900
(b) Subsequent visits	7,013
To children, aged one to five years	21,418
Total Visits	————— 32,453

MATERNITY AND NURSING HOMES.—There are three private maternity homes registered in St. Helens. These have been periodically inspected and found to be satisfactory. During the year 116 maternity cases were delivered in these homes.

In the maternity block of the St. Helens Hospital, 315 cases were delivered.

CHILD WELFARE CLINICS.—Child Welfare Clinics for children under 5 years of age are held at 11 sessions weekly at 6 centres. The attendances at the various maternity and child welfare clinics during 1940 are shown in Table 12. All the clinic sessions were conducted normally throughout the year and 69.9% of all children under 1 year of age born within the borough attended one or other of the various clinics. There was an increase in the number of toddlers who attended the special toddlers' clinics. During 1940, 46 mothers attended the Test Feeding Clinic and were given advice and help towards the successful feeding of their infants. In 27 of these cases breast-feeding was fully re-established, in 10 it was necessary to complement the breast milk by means of artificial feeds, and in 9 cases lactation could not be established so the mothers were advised to feed their children wholly on artificial food.

ANTE-NATAL CLINICS.—Special ante-natal clinics are held 6 times weekly at 5 centres. In 64.43% of the total notified (live and still) births during 1940 the mothers had attended one or other of these ante-natal clinics. The expectant mothers are appreciative of the services rendered at these clinics, and the lowered maternal mortality rate is an indication that the work carried out is producing good results. The mental attitude of expectant mothers towards pregnancy and ante-natal clinics is much healthier than in former years. Amongst the mothers visiting the clinics conditions requiring attention were found in 375 cases. This number appears high, but it includes 111 cases of dental caries, 45 of anaemia, 50 of albuminuria, 43 with varicose veins, 20 malpresentations and 18 cases of cardiac disease. A small number of patients with tuberculosis, asthma, goitre, epilepsy, glycosuria, haematuria and rheumatism were also detected and gained benefit from treatment.

TABLE 12.

Attendances at Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics.

	1939	1940
Child Welfare Clinics.		
No. of children who attended for the first time during the year and who, on the date of their first attendance, were :—		
(i) under 1 year of age	1345	1284
(ii) between the ages of 1 and 5 years	652	720
Percentage of notified births represented by the number of children who on the date of their first attendance were under 1 year of age	67.08	67.90
Number who attended and at the end of the year were—		
(i) under 1 year of age	1219	1159
(ii) between the ages of 1 and 5 years	2253	2146
No. of attendances by children—		
(i) under 1 year of age	14162	13390
(ii) between the ages of 1 and 5 years	3460	2788
Test-feeding Clinic.		
No. of nursing mothers who attended	66	46
No. of attendances	76	55
Ante-natal Clinics.		
No. of expectant mothers who attended	1274	1277
No. of attendances by expectant mothers	6042	5422
Percentage of total notified births (live and still) represented by the number of expectant mothers who attended either the Maternity and Child Welfare Centres or the Ante-natal Clinics	60.70	64.43
Gynaecological and Post-natal Clinic.		
No. of Mothers who attended	544	270
No. of attendances	613	675
Sunlight Clinic.		
No. of Children who attended.....	110	93
No. of attendances	1926	1398
Toddlers' Clinics.		
No. of Toddlers who attended	700	1008
No. of attendances	1953	1975

GYNAECOLOGICAL AND POST-NATAL CLINIC.—

270 women made 675 attendances at this clinic during the year. Of this number 162 attended for post-natal examination and 131 of them were found to be completely recovered from their confinement, while 31 needed further treatment for conditions such as subinvolution of uterus, misplacement of uterus, anaemia, bronchitis, cardiac disease, phthisis and tuberculous glands. 108 other women attended for examination and advice concerning diseases and conditions essentially appertaining to women. These conditions included sterility, misplacement of uterus, cystitis, enteroptosis, menorrhagia, hyothyroidism, ovarian cyst, and pregnancy. Minor misplacements of the uterus were treated at the clinic.

Patients found to be pregnant were referred to the ante-natal clinics. Many of the other patients were referred to their own doctors for treatment.

Advice on Birth Control methods were given to 14 women for the following reasons : renal disease 7, cardiac disease 5, thyrotoxicosis 1, and profound anaemia 1.

SUNLIGHT CLINIC.—Two sessions are held weekly at the Artificial Sunlight Clinic and during 1940, 93 children made 1,398 attendances. These children were mainly suffering from rickets, anaemia and marasmus, and derived considerable benefit from the treatment.

HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION.—Accommodation at the Council's Maternity and Child Welfare Hospital, Cowley Hill, remains as in the previous year, namely, 20 beds for maternity cases and 32 cots for children. Admissions to the maternity wards during the year numbered 459 and as there were 27 patients in hospital on the 1st January, the total number of maternity cases dealt with during 1940 was 486. Included in the number were 51 patients who were admitted for ante-natal treatment. The average duration of stay

of all patients in hospital was 14 days. The number of deliveries during the year was 412 and the following abnormalities occurred :—

Breech delivery	21	Mitral Stenosis	1
Albuminuria	14	Placenta Praevia.....	1
Induction	12	Prolapsed Cord	1
Caesarean Section	7	T.B. Spine	1
Forceps delivery	5	Face Presentation	1
Accidental Haemorrhage	5	Anencephaly	1
Twins	5	Hydrocephaly.....	1
Post-partum Haemorrhage	4	Epilepsy	1
Phthisis	5	Gonorrhoea	1
Episiotomy.....	2		—
Retained Placenta	2		95
Eclampsia	2		—
Toxaemia	2		

Two maternal deaths occurred, one due to lobar pneumonia and one to toxaemia of pregnancy.

There were 22 still births and 12 infants died within 10 days of birth, the causes of death being :—

Prematurity	4
Twin Pregnancy	2
Eclampsia	2
Toxaemia of mother	1
Placenta Praevia	1
Spina Bifida	1
Haemorrhagic Disease of the new born	1
	—
	12
	—

Five cases of pemphigus neonatorum occurred during the month of March. These were isolated and treated and all recovered. When they had been discharged the hospital was closed to allow complete cleaning and disinfection, and after re-opening no fresh cases occurred.

113 children were admitted to the children's wards and with 5 remaining in hospital from the previous year made the total number of children treated 118.

The reasons for admission of the 113 children admitted during the year were as follows :—

Debility	27	Corneal Ulcers	1
Marasmus	18	Pink Disease	1
Rickets	4	Broncho-pneumonia	1
Prematurity	3	Spina Bifida	1
Gastritis	3	Enteritis	1
Pyloric spasm	2	Eczema	1
Congenital malformation of hands.....	1	For care while mother in maternity ward	49
			<hr/> 113 <hr/>

CONSULTANT SERVICES.—These remained as in previous years.

MILK FOR MOTHERS AND INFANTS.—During the first six months of 1940 the arrangements whereby nursing and expectant mothers and infants could obtain full cream dried milk or chocolate milk at the various maternity and child welfare centres at less than cost price remained as in previous years. In July, however, the National Milk Scheme came into force. Under that scheme every nursing and expectant mother and child under 5 years of age can obtain one pint of liquid milk daily either free or at a cost of not more than 2d. per pint. The great majority of mothers and children in St. Helens have availed themselves of this scheme. In September, 1940, the scheme was amended to allow the supply of dried milk for children under 12 months for whom the liquid milk was found unsuitable. The liquid milk is distributed through the various local dealers, but the greater portion of the dried milk is being distributed through the Council's various Infant Welfare Clinics. This permits the supplementing, where necessary, of the

amount of dried milk issued under the National Milk Scheme with dried milk under the Council's scheme. It also permits, where the infant cannot digest or does not thrive on the National dried milk, the substitution for that milk of one or other of the special milks obtainable at these Clinics.

That the National Milk Scheme should be of the greatest benefit to the mothers and infants of the town is undoubted. It is unfortunate, however, that the Medical Officer of Health has no control over the sources of supply such as obtains in the "Milk in Schools" scheme.

During the year approximately 287 cwts. of dried milk or chocolate milk were disposed of through the Council's scheme for milk for mothers and infants, and of this 405 lbs. were issued free and 26,244 lbs. at less than the cost price.

STERILE MATERNITY OUTFITS.—During 1940 the number of outfits purchased was 350. This figure is considerably below the number bought in each of the two previous years, but is accounted for by the fact that owing to war time restrictions these outfits are difficult to obtain. In the meantime, mothers are being instructed in the making of their own outfits for their confinements.

MINOR AILMENTS AND DENTAL DEFECTS.—During the year 10 children received treatment for minor ailments, and 194 mothers and 219 children received dental treatment at the Council's Clinics. Mothers in need of dentures are supplied with these at cost price, and toddlers may be supplied with spectacles when these are required for the treatment of squint.

CRIPPLED CHILDREN.—A complete record of the work of the Orthopaedic Clinic is given in Table 13 in the Orthopaedic section of the Report.

From that Table it will be seen that under the Maternity and Child Welfare Service 186 crippled children under 5 years of age were dealt with. Eight cases were admitted to the Royal Liverpool Children's Hospital for operative treatment, 4 were admitted to the Maternity and Child Welfare Hospital for supervisory treatment, and 1 case was admitted to Eccleston Hall Sanatorium.

CHILD LIFE PROTECTION.—Particulars are given in the following statement of the cases dealt with during the year.

Number of persons on the Register who were receiving children for reward at 31/12/40	8
--	---

Number of children :—

(a) On the Register at 1/1/40	6
(b) Admitted to the Register during the year	4
(c) Removed from the Register during the year—	
(i) Left the Borough.....	1
(ii) Legally adopted	0
(iii) Returned to relatives	1
(iv) Over age	0
	— 2
(d) Who died during the year	0
(e) On the Register at 31/12/40	8

The children were inspected regularly throughout the year by the Health Visitors, who are also child protection visitors, and all were found to be well cared for and living under satisfactory conditions.

IX. ORTHOPAEDICS.

The general arrangements for the carrying out of the work of the Orthopaedic Department remained as in previous years, and a summary of the work during 1940 is given in Table 13. Table 14 shows the cases treated classified according to their defects. It will be remembered that in recent years attention was drawn to the increased number of cases of postural defects and acquired foot deformities which required to be referred for treatment, and it is pleasing to note that during 1940 there has been a decrease in this number. No doubt the special sessions arranged at the clinics for medical gymnastics and remedial exercises for these children and the greater attention given to this matter in the schools has had beneficial effects.

The number of cases of rickets also shows a decrease as compared with the previous year.

Table 13.

Record of work under Orthopaedic Scheme during the year 1940.

	Tuberculous Cases	Maternity and Child Welfare Cases	Non-tubercular School Children
Number of cases on the Register, 1st January, 1940	18	118	344
Number of new cases seen during 1940	4	68	98
Number of old cases seen during 1940	18	118	344
Number who attended for consultation only	—	—	—
Number discharged cured or improved	—	24	55
Number discharged showing no material improvement	—	—	—
Number ceased to attend, over age, etc.	1	5	64
Cases transferred to Education Account	—	15	—
Cases transferred to Tuberculosis Account	—	—	2
Number of cases remaining under treatment at end of 1940	22	142	336
Attendances to see Orthopaedic Surgeon	45	327	719
Attendances for intermediate treatment	48	946	3094
Visits to Homes by Orthopaedic Nurse	220	33	125
Cases treated in Royal Liverpool Children's Hospital : Myrtle Street	—	3	6
Heswall	—	5	16
Cases treated in Leasowe Open-Air Hospital for Children	5	—	—
Cases treated in Royal Southern Hospital	1	—	2
Cases treated in Maternity and Child Welfare Hospital	—	4	—
Cases treated in Eccleston Hall Sanatorium	6	1	—
Total number of days of Institutional Treatment	2866	1245	2048

Table 14.

Defects treated under Orthopaedic Scheme during 1940.

Defect	Tuberculous Cases	Maternity and Child Welfare Cases	Non-tubercular School Children
Infantile Paralysis	—	7	44
Other forms of Paralysis	—	18	28
Rickets	—	33	40
Congenital deformities	—	28	59
Acquired foot deformities	—	90	96
Traumatism	—	1	6
Arthritis	—	1	2
Postural defects	—	5	113
Miscellaneous	—	4	42
Tuberculosis :			
(a) Spine	9	—	—
(b) Hip	8	—	—
(c) Knee.....	4	—	—
(d) Ankle	—	—	—
(e) Others	2	—	—
Total	23	187	430

X.—WELFARE OF THE BLIND.

There were 213 Blind Persons on the Blind Register for St. Helens on the 1st January, 1940, and this number decreased by 7 to 206 during the year. The following is an analysis of the cases on the register at the 31st December, 1940.

Age distribution :—

Age	0—4	years	.....	.....	.....	—
	5—15	„	.....	.....	.....	11
	16—20	„	.....	.....	.....	7
	21—49	„	.....	.....	.....	53
	50—69	„	.....	.....	.....	75
	70—	„	.....	.....	.....	60
						—
	Total		.....	.....	.....	206

Educational and occupational distribution :—

Infant	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	—
Education	.....	At school	.....	.....	.....	.....	6
		Not at school	.....	.....	.....	.....	5
Employment—	Employed (Workshops or Home Workers						
	Scheme)	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	29
	Employed (Working on own account)	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	6
	Under training	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	—
	Not training but trainable	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3
	Unemployable	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	157
	Trained, but unemployed	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	—

All provision for the care and welfare of the local blind—with the exception of that of blind children under two years of age, and the education of children of school age and vocational training—is undertaken on behalf of the Corporation by the St. Helens and District Society for the Welfare of the Blind.

XI.—POOR LAW MEDICAL RELIEF.

The arrangements for institutional treatment remain as before ; the Council retaining their agreement with the Lancashire County Council for the treatment of cases at the County Hospital, Whiston. Table 15 shows the number of persons in receipt of institutional relief on medical grounds on the 1st January, 1941, and also the number of rate-aided persons in mental hospitals.

For outdoor medical relief the town is divided into five medical relief districts for each of which there is a part-time District Medical Officer. During the 12 months ending 31st March, 1941, 1,458

medical orders were issued and there was an average of 265 persons on the permanent medical relief list. During the same period 10,295 prescriptions were completed by the chemists in connection with the treatment of these cases.

Table 15.

Establishments in which persons were relieved.	Men	Women	Children between 3 and 16 years of age	Infants under 3 years of age	Total
(A). <i>In Poor Law Establishments :—</i>					
County Hospital, Whiston :					
(a) Sick wards	20	18	6	9	53
(b) Persons suffering from mental infirmity and certified under the Lunacy Acts or the Mental De- ficiency Acts	44	44	—	—	88
(B). <i>In Establishments not administered under the Poor Law Acts :—</i>					
(a) Establishments for persons suffering from mental infirmity, excluding persons maintained under the Lunacy and Mental Treatment Acts, 1890 to 1930, in Mental Hospitals :—					
Royal Albert Institution	1	—	—	—	1
(b) Other Establishments for the Sick—					
Maghull Home for Epileptics	2	4	—	—	6
David Lewis Epileptic Colony, Manchester.....	1	1	—	—	2
Chalfont Epileptic Colony, Bucks.	—	1	—	—	1
(C). <i>In Mental Hospitals administered under the Lunacy and Mental Treatment Acts :—</i>					
Rate-aided persons	125	138	—	—	263
TOTALS	193	206	6	9	414

Dental cases are treated at the Council's Dental Clinic, the work being carried out at a special evening session held weekly. 120 cases were treated during the year at that Clinic. To 14 of these dentures were also supplied, and in 6 cases dentures were repaired.

Cases with eye diseases or defects are treated by the Ophthalmic Surgeon at either the St. Helens Hospital or the Providence Hospital.

XII.—INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.—There is a municipal abattoir with cold stores attached.

The inspection and supervision of all meat in the abattoir is carried out by the Abattoir Superintendent, who is a qualified Meat Inspector. All animals are subjected to ante and post-mortem inspection.

On January 15th, 1940, the Ministry of Food's scheme for the control of meat and livestock came into operation. Under that scheme all animals intended for food are purchased by the Ministry and slaughtered at selected slaughterhouses, the meat and offal afterwards being transferred to a distributive organisation.

The St. Helens Abattoir is one of the slaughterhouses selected by the Ministry for this purpose.

The agreement with the Ministry for the use of the Abattoir provides that in return for tolls for animals slaughtered, the Council continue to provide premises, equipment and services on the lines of the former practice as between the Council and private traders.

Owing to the larger number of animals killed under this scheme than in normal years it was found necessary to provide additional equipment and to carry out certain improvements to the Abattoir premises. Also, in order to provide additional lairage accommodation the use of the Parr Street Salesyard was obtained.

Under the Cold Storage (Restriction) Order, 1939, the Director of Cold Storage of the Ministry of Food assumed control during the year of the Cold Stores at the Abattoir. This control was subsequently relinquished and the freezing room has now been let to the St. Helens Retail Butchers' Buying Committee and the chilling rooms to the North Western Wholesale Meat Supply Association Limited—the distributive organisation for this area.

In addition to the Public Abattoir there is one private slaughter house in the Borough. This is licensed for the slaughter of pigs only and the licence comes up for review yearly. Owing to the

operation of the scheme for the control of meat and livestock the use of this slaughterhouse has been temporarily discontinued.

During the year licences under the Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933, were renewed to 29 slaughtermen employed at the Public Abattoir and five additional licences were granted. Licences were also renewed in respect of two slaughtermen previously employed at the private slaughterhouse.

Table 16 shows the number of animals killed and inspected, and the number of carcasses, or parts of carcasses or organs, condemned at the abattoir and the private slaughterhouse during 1940.

The inspection and supervision of other foodstuffs in the borough, and of the premises in which they are prepared or sold, is undertaken by a specialist Food Inspector.

At the end of the year 163 premises were registered under Section 127 of the St. Helens Corporation Act, 1933, for the preparation or manufacture of potted, pressed, pickled or preserved meat, fish or other food intended for the purpose of sale.

During 1940, 4244 visits were made by Inspectors to shops, stalls and other places where food is prepared or stored, as compared with 3,383 visits during 1939. The following is a brief summary of the work covered by these visits. Further details are given in the appropriate sections of the Report.

Premises	Visits	No. of offences against Acts, Orders, &c.	No. of nuisances or defects found	No. of nuisances or defects remedied after service of notice
Private Slaughterhouses	5	—	—	—
Fried Fish shops	452	39	42	40
Fishmongers and Greengrocers	1033	34	35	35
Butchers' shops	853	24	22	22
Ice Cream Premises	304	1	3	3
Bakehouses	192	60	58	53
Tripe Boilers, etc.	79	4	4	4
Food Preparing and Storing Places	541	22	20	24
Grocers' Shops	785	77	77	71

Table 16.
CARCASSES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

	Public Abattoir.					Private Slaughterhouse.				
	Cattle, excluding cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and lambs	Pigs	Cattle, excluding cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and lambs	Pigs
Number killed	1825	4542	323	18848	5362	—	—	—	—	98
Number inspected	1825	4542	324	18852*	5372*	—	—	—	—	98
All Diseases except Tuberculosis :—										
Whole carcasses condemned	—	9	8	32	17	—	—	—	—	1
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	248	1169	2	932	846	—	—	—	—	16
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis	13.5%	25.9%	3.08%	5.1%	16.06%	—	—	—	—	17.3%
Tuberculosis only :—										
Whole carcasses condemned	2	36	2	—	3	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	104	1635	8	—	376	—	—	—	—	4
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	5.8%	36.7%	3.08%	—	7.05%	—	—	—	—	4.08%

* Of these numbers one calf, four sheep and ten pigs killed elsewhere were brought to the abattoir for inspection purposes.

The following are the particulars of offences in connection with unsound food or unsatisfactory conditions of food premises in respect of which action was taken during the year :—

Offence	Action Taken	Result where Legal Proceedings were instituted
1. Having in possession for the purpose of sale or of preparation for sale 45 rabbits and 2 lbs. of pieces of cut rabbits which were intended for, but unfit for, human consumption.	Legal Proceedings Instituted	Fined £2/0/0
2. Having in possession for the purpose of sale 41½ lbs. of meat which was intended for, but unfit for, human consumption.	Ditto	Case dismissed. Vendor convicted under Waste of Food Order, 1940, and fined £5/0/0
3. Having in possession for the purpose of sale or of preparation for sale, Butter, Margarine, Lard, Cooking Fats and Cheese, weight 553¼ lbs. which were intended for, but unfit for, human consumption.	Ditto	Fined £10/0/0
4. Having in possession for the purpose of sale or of preparation for sale 48 lbs. of meat which was intended for, but unfit for, human consumption.	Ditto	Fined £10/0/0 and also fined £5/0/0 under The Waste of Food Order, 1940.
5. Having in possession for the purpose of sale or of preparation for sale 179 lbs. mincemeat intended for, but unfit for, human consumption.	Ditto	Fined £10/0/0
6. Having in possession for the purpose of sale 43 tins of foodstuffs which were intended for, but unfit for, human consumption.	Ditto	Fined £10/0/0
7. Having in possession for the purpose of sale 24 lbs. of fish and six rabbits which were intended for, but unfit for, human consumption.	Ditto	Fined £2/0/0
8. Failure to cleanse as often as necessary and to keep clean the yard of fish-frying premises and the room and utensils used for the preparation of potatoes for cooking.	Legal proceedings instituted	Fined £2/0/0
9. Failure to cleanse as often as necessary and to keep clean the floor of bakehouse and the floor of the room used for the storage of foodstuffs.	Warned by the Health Committee	

The following are the total quantities of various classes of foodstuffs which were condemned at the abattoir or in shops, etc., during the year, owing to being diseased or unsound :—

Meat	33,186 lbs.
Fish	456 lbs.
Poultry, Game and Rabbits	203 lbs.
Fruit	70 lbs.
Vegetables	15 lbs.
Butter	258 lbs.
Lard	176 lbs.
Margarine	76 lbs.
Cheese	110 lbs.
Cooking Fat	18 lbs.
Mince Meat	236 lbs.
Ham	7 lbs.
Biscuits	8 lbs.
Canned Goods	1,182 lbs.
	<hr/>
	36,001 lbs.
	<hr/>

Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924.—Twelve infringements of the Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924, were found during the year. These referred to the cleansing and whitewashing of rooms used as meat stores. In each case the unsatisfactory condition was remedied after service of notice.

Agricultural Produce (Grading and Marking) Acts, 1928-1931.—There are no premises in the Borough registered for the cold or chemical storage of eggs.

No infringements of the Agricultural Produce (Grading and Marking (Eggs) Regulations, 1930, were found during the year.

Merchandise Marks Act, 1926.—During the year, 2,671 inspections were made for the purpose of ensuring that the requirements of Orders made under this Act, and dealing with the marking

of imported foodstuffs, were being complied with. On 21 occasions warnings were given regarding minor infringements.

MILK AND MILK PRODUCTS.

Milk and Dairies Order, 1926.—At the close of the year there were registered :—

- 8 persons as cowkeepers and wholesale and retail purveyors of milk ;
- 1 person as cowkeeper and wholesale purveyor of milk ;
- 8 persons as cowkeepers and retail purveyors of milk ;
- 361 persons as purveyors of milk ; and
- 60 premises as cowsheds or dairies.

A total of 737 visits were paid by the Sanitary Inspectors to these premises during the year. In addition to these visits, all dairy cattle are inspected quarterly and as occasion arises by the Ministry of Agriculture's Veterinary Inspectors.

Serious infringements of the Order are now few, and in no instance was it necessary to institute legal proceedings.

Milk (Special Designations) Orders, 1936 & 1938.—The following licences were granted under the Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1936, during the year :—

Licence authorising the use of the special designation 'Tuberculin Tested' in respect of the establishment at which the milk is produced and bottled	1
--	---

Licences authorising the use of the special designation "Accredited" in respect of the establishment at which the milk is produced and bottled	6
--	---

Licences authorising the use of the special designation “ Pasteurised ” in respect of the establishment in which the process of pasteurising is carried on, and in respect of any shop or other establishment from which the milk is sold 2

Licences authorising the use of the special designation “ Tuberculin Tested ” from an establishment (not being the establishment at which the milk is produced and bottled) 2

Licences authorising the use of the special designation “ Pasteurised ” in respect of establishments (not being establishments at which the process of Pasteurising is carried on)..... 4

No fees are charged by the Council in respect of licences granted under this Order.

Biological Examination of Milk.—In the routine examination of milk supplies, 87 samples were sent during the year for examination for the presence of tubercle bacilli by guinea-pig inoculation tests. Owing, however, to a shortage of guinea-pigs during the year microscopical examinations only were carried out in 24 instances.

Of the 63 samples in respect of which a definite diagnosis was made, positive evidence of tubercle bacilli was found in 2, or 3.1%. This is considerably lower than the corresponding percentage for the previous year (10.4%).

Table 17 shows the percentage of infected samples and the area of production of the samples examined during the past four years.

TABLE 17.

Tubercle Bacilli in Milk.

Areas of production of samples examined.

Area	Year	No. of routine samples examined	No. of samples in respect of which the guinea-pig died too soon for a definite diagnosis to be made	No. of samples in respect of which a definite diagnosis was made	Samples shewing positive evidence of tubercle bacilli	
					Number	Percentage
1937						
St. Helens.....		40	1	39	—	—
Lancashire C.C.		46	1	45	4	8.8%
Cheshire C.C.		32	1	31	—	—
Liverpool.....		2	1	1	1	100.0%
* Pasteurised		15	—	15	—	—
Total		135	4	131	5	3.8%
1938						
St. Helens.....		35	—	35	1	2.8%
Lancashire C.C.		44	—	44	6	13.6%
Cheshire C.C.		23	—	23	1	4.3%
Liverpool.....		1	—	1	1	100.0%
* Pasteurised		13	—	13	—	—
Total		116	—	116	9	7.7%
1939						
St. Helens.....		25	—	25	1	4.0%
Lancashire C.C.		34	—	34	5	14.7%
Cheshire C.C.		26	2	24	3	12.5%
Liverpool.....		2	—	2	1	50.0%
* Pasteurised		11	—	11	—	—
Total		98	2	96	10	10.4%
1940						
St. Helens.....		14	—	12	—	—
Lancashire C.C.		41	—	28	1	3.5%
Cheshire C.C.		18	—	12	—	—
Liverpool.....		2	—	2	1	50.0%
* Pasteurised		12	—	9	—	—
Total		87	—	+ 63	2	3.1%

* As the pasteurised milk was mixed milk from several areas the area of production of the samples examined was unknown.

† Owing to a shortage of guinea-pigs microscopical examinations only were carried out in 24 instances.

Bacteriological Examination of Milk.—In addition to the samples of milk taken for examination for tubercle bacilli, 99 samples were also taken for examination for bacterial count, coliform bacillus and for the methylene blue reduction test. The results of the examinations are shown in Table 18.

TABLE 18.
Bacteriological Examination of Graded and Ungraded Milks.

No. of Samples	Grade	Satisfied Methylene Blue Test	Failed to satisfy Methylene Blue Test	Number of bacteria per m.l.				Colon Bacilli present in 1/100th m.l.
				Under 30,000	30,000 to 100,000	100,000 to 200,000	Over 200,000	
8	Tuberculin Tested	7	1	7	—	—	1	—
24	Accredited	24	—	20	3	1	—	2
47	Ungraded Milk from Accredited Producers	39	8	19	13	3	12	13
20	Pasteurised	20	—	11	6	3	—	4

From that table it will be seen that of the 8 samples of tuberculin tested milk one sample (12.5%) failed to satisfy the methylene blue test required by the Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1936. Of the 24 accredited milk samples all satisfied the methylene blue test and in 2 (8.3%) samples bacillus coli was found in 1/100th millilitre or less.

Of the 47 samples of ungraded milk from accredited producers, 8 (17%) failed to satisfy the methylene blue test and 13 (27.6%) contained bacillus coli in 1/100th millilitre.

Of the 20 samples of pasteurised milk, 3 (15%) contained bacteria in excess of 100,000 per millilitre and, therefore, failed to comply with the standard set for such samples.

Examination of Milk for the Presence of Phosphatase.—Six samples of milk were taken during the year for examination for the presence of phosphatase.

Two of the samples were reported by the Analyst to have been improperly pasteurised. Warnings were given in each case.

Milk-in-Schools Scheme.—Very strict supervision of milk supplied to schools under the Milk-in-Schools Scheme is still being maintained.

The milk now supplied is either raw milk for which the producers hold graded licences, or milk for which pasteurisers' licences have been granted. During the year 72 school departments and 12 meals centres were supplied with milk by 6 suppliers with 7 separate sources of supply.

The number of samples taken during 1940 was as follows :—

(a) Chemical Analysis	326
<i>These samples are additional to the routine samples taken under the Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act, 1928, and the Gerber method of analysis is used.</i>	
(b) Bacteriological Examination	49
(c) Examination for the presence of Tubercle Bacillus	28

If, upon examination, a sample of milk is found to contain evidence of tubercular infection, approval of the supply is immediately withdrawn and arrangements are made by the Department for an alternative supply to be provided. Approval is also withdrawn where two or three consecutive samples show excessive bacterial counts or coli content.

Ice Cream Premises.—The following are the particulars at the end of the year of registrations under the St. Helens Corporation Act, 1933, of manufacturers and vendors of Ice Cream and the premises used by them :—

Manufacturers and Vendors	34
Vendors only	113
Premises for manufacture and sale	34
Premises for sale only	115

A total of 304 visits of inspection were made during the year.

5 samples of ice cream were taken during the year for bacteriological examination with the following results :—

<i>Sample No.</i>	<i>Bacteria per m.l.</i>	<i>Presence or absence of coliform bacillus in 1/100th m.l.</i>	<i>Does sample satisfy methylene Blue Test?</i>
187	2,000	Absent	Yes
188	9,600	Absent	Yes
202	640,000	Present	Yes
203	144,000	Present	Yes
204	128,000	Present	Yes

Despite the generally high standard of premises and equipment in St. Helens, much work still remains to be done in regard to the hygienic production of ice cream.

Artificial Cream Act, 1929.—No premises are registered under this Act in St. Helens, and no infringements were found.

FOOD AND DRUGS.

Food and Drugs Act, 1938.—During the year, 349 formal samples and 86 informal samples were taken for analysis.

The natures of the samples taken, with the results of examination by the Public Analyst, are shown in Table 19.

Table 19.

Number of samples taken during 1940 under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, and the results of analysis by the Public Analyst.

ARTICLE.	Number of samples taken.		Number genuine.		Number adulterated.	
	Formal	Informal	Formal	Informal	Formal	Informal
Bacon	4	—	4	—	—	—
Baking Powder	3	2	3	2	—	—
Bicarbonate of Soda ...	1	2	1	2	—	—
Bread and Butter	7	—	4	—	3	—
Cereals :—						
Barley	4	2	4	2	—	—
Cornflour	—	2	—	2	—	—
Flour	1	1	1	1	—	—
Rice	3	2	3	2	—	—
Self Raising Flour	7	—	7	—	—	—
Cocoa	1	1	1	1	—	—
Coffee	4	2	4	2	—	—
Cooking Fat	10	2	10	2	—	—
Condiments	2	5	2	5	—	—
Confectionery, etc.	—	1	—	1	—	—
Dried Fruits, Spices, etc.	5	—	5	—	—	—
Dripping	4	—	4	—	—	—
Drugs, etc.	14	16	14	16	—	—
Honey	—	1	—	1	—	—
Jams and Jellies	14	2	14	2	—	—
Lard	5	1	5	1	—	—
Margarine	7	3	7	3	—	—
Milk and Milk Products :						
Butter	4	—	4	—	—	—
Cheese	7	6	7	6	—	—
Tinned Cream	—	1	—	1	—	—
Milk	180	25	177	14	3	11
Mincemeat	4	—	4	—	—	—
Potted and Tinned Meat						
and Fish	5	5	5	5	—	—
Sausages	16	—	16	—	—	—
Syrup	1	—	1	—	—	—
Suet	3	—	3	—	—	—
Sugar.....	2	—	2	—	—	—
Sweets	7	1	7	1	—	—
Tea	2	1	2	1	—	—
Tinned Fruits, etc.	—	1	—	1	—	—
Tripe	1	—	1	—	—	—
Vinegar	13	1	11	1	2	—
Wines and Spirits, etc :—						
Whiskey	3	—	3	—	—	—
Rum	5	—	5	—	—	—
	349	86	341	75	8	11

In addition to the above, 326 informal samples of milk supplied to schools under the Milk-in-Schools Scheme were examined by means of the Gerber Test in the Department's own laboratory.

The appended statement shows the action taken in cases of adulterated samples taken formally :—

(a) Legal proceedings instituted under the Food and Drug Act, 1938 :—

<i>Sample No.</i>	<i>Article</i>	<i>Adulteration and result of proceedings</i>
287	Table Vinegar	13% deficient in acetic acid. Legal proceedings under Section 3 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, taken against the vendor, but, subsequently withdrawn owing to faulty service of summons.
292	Bread and Butter	Consisted entirely of bread and margarine. Fined 10/- and £1/11/0 costs.
329	Malt Vinegar	Consisted of artificial vinegar which was 43% deficient in acetic acid. Fined 10/- and £1/11/0 costs.
622	Bread and Butter	Vendor found guilty and case dismissed on payment of 4/- costs.

(b) No legal proceedings instituted, but in all cases the sellers were warned by the Health Committee or investigations were carried out into the cause of the deficiencies :—

<i>Sample No.</i>	<i>Article</i>	<i>Adulteration</i>
S.305	Milk	5% deficient in milk fat.
S.334	Milk	18% deficient in milk fat.
S.337	Milk	16% deficient in milk fat.
S.338	Milk	16% deficient in milk fat.
S.339	Milk	17% deficient in milk fat.
S.340	Milk	18% deficient in milk fat.
S.353	Milk	13% deficient in milk fat.

<i>Sample No.</i>	<i>Article.</i>	<i>Adulteration.</i>
S.354	Milk	13% deficient in milk fat.
369	Milk	6% deficient in milk fat.
S.390	Milk	6% deficient in milk fat.
S.403	Milk	3% deficient in milk fat.
S.404	Milk	8% deficient in milk fat.
446	Milk	12% deficient in milk fat.
621	Bread and Butter	Bread portion 93%. Fatty portion 7%. The fatty portion consisted of margarine.
684	Sterilised Milk	0.8% deficient in non-fatty solids. On the basis of the freezing point test the amount of added water was not less than 1.8%.

The Public Health (Condensed Milk) Regulations, 1923 and 1927.—No infringements of these Regulations were found during the year.

The Public Health (Dried Milk) Regulations, 1923 and 1927.—No infringements of these Regulations were found during the year.

Public Health (Preservatives in Food) Regulations.—All samples submitted to the Public Analyst under the Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act, 1928, are also examined for the presence of preservatives.

Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs Act, 1926.—11 informal samples of fertilisers and feeding stuffs were taken under the above Act during 1940, and all were found to be genuine.

No infringements of the Act in respect of labelling were found during the year.

Pharmacy and Poisons Act, 1933.—At the end of the year there were 22 persons entered in the Local Authority's list of persons entitled to sell poisons included in Part II of the Poisons List. The number of premises concerned was 46.

A total of 96 visits were paid to these premises during the year and no infringements were found.

BAKEHOUSES.—There are 64 bakehouses in St. Helens and mechanical power is employed in 42 instances.

192 visits of inspection to the various bakehouses were made during the year and 58 sanitary defects were found, of which 53 were remedied.

DISEASES OF ANIMALS ACTS.—Tuberculosis Order, 1938.—No animals from dairy herds in the Borough were slaughtered during the year under the provisions of the above-mentioned Order.

Anthrax.—No cases of suspected Anthrax were reported during the year.

Swine Fever.—15 cases of suspected Swine Fever were reported during the year. In no instance was the disease confirmed.

Markets, Sales and Lairs Order of 1925.—There are two markets for the sale of animals in St. Helens. One of these is situate behind the Royal Raven Hotel, Church Street, and the other between 5 and 21 Parr Street. The former is now little used.

In each case the lairs used in connection with these markets are licensed by the Local Authority.

XIII.—SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water.—There were no new sources of public water supply during the year.

The water is of a high degree of purity. That from the deep wells and from Collins Green is hard, the average hardness being 22.6° and 27° respectively, and the hardness of both is reduced to approximately 10.5° by softening processes before distribution. The water from the Liverpool Corporation's Rivington Main is soft and is blended with hard water before distribution, so that in its ultimate distribution it also approximates 10.5°.

As recommended by the Ministry of Health, sterilizing plants of the chlorine ammonia type are now being installed at all pumping stations and at the Brown Edge Waterworks. By the end of the year new installations were in operation at Knowsley, Kirkby, Melling and Whiston pumping stations, together with part of the Brown Edge installation.

A portable chlorinator has also been purchased for the sterilisation of watermains and for the substitution of chlorinators at pumping stations which may be temporarily out of use.

The only important extension of watermains was the interconnection of supplies between St. Helens and the Southport Water Board at Melling.

RIVERS and STREAMS.—The supervision of rivers and streams in St. Helens is now carried out by the Lancashire Rivers Board.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.—The construction of the Haresfinch intercepting sewer was continued during the year. This sewer will serve the north-eastern section of the Borough and when completed will remove an important source of the pollution of the Town's water courses. The construction of this sewer is now nearing completion.

A new connecting sewer has been laid from Gaskell Street to Gower Street.

Negotiations were completed with Messrs. Pilkington Bros. Ltd. and the United Glass Bottle Manufacturers Limited for the improvement of the existing sewerage arrangements in Ravenhead Road and work on this scheme commenced in the early part of the current year.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.—No pail closets or privy middens were converted to the fresh water carriage system during the year.

It is estimated that there are still 106 pail closets and 282 privy middens serving 105 and 291 houses respectively.

There are also 66 pail closets and 4 privy middens at various schools and works.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.—The removal and disposal of house refuse is carried out by the Borough Engineer's Department. There are no refuse disposal works, all refuse other than salvage being disposed of by controlled tipping. There is now a scheme in operation for the salvage of paper, metals, bones, domestic waste and glass.

The only tip at present in use is the Kurtz tip.

During 1940, 5 ashpits were abolished and 60 galvanised metal dustbins were provided, as compared with 865 and 1002 respectively for the previous year.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.—The total number of visits paid by sanitary inspectors during the year was 30,677. The nature of these inspections is shown in Table 20, and Table 21 contains a list of the notices served and the results of such notices.

TABLE 20.

Number and nature of inspections during 1940.
Complaints of Nuisances.

Number of Complaints Investigated :—

1. Housing Defects	.....	.....	.....	.....	822
2. Choked and Defective Drains	.....	.....	.....	.....	459
3. Emission of Smoke	.....	.....	.....	.....	2
4. Accumulations of Offensive Matter	.....	.....	.....	.....	7
5. Miscellaneous	.....	.....	.....	.....	185

Table 20—Continued.

Inspections re Sanitation and Food Supply.							
Dwelling Houses inspected	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2579
Common Lodging Houses	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	127
Houses-let-in-lodgings	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	58
Common Yards, back-roads and passages	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	461
Horse-manure middensteads	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	407
Fried Fish Shops	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	452
Fishmongers and Greengrocers	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1033
Butchers' Shops	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	853
Grocers' Shops	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	785
Ice Cream Premises	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	304
Shops Act, 1934	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	137
Pharmacy and Poisons Act	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	96
Factories (with mechanical power)	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	553
Factories (without mechanical power)	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	326
Other premises under the Factories Act, 1937	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	40
Bakehouses	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	192
Workplaces (including Offices)	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	40
Offensive Trades	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	79
Private Slaughterhouses	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	5
Food Preparing and Storing Places	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	541
Places of Public Entertainment	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	63
Tents, Vans and Sheds	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	17
Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	737
Schools	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	—
Testing Drains :—							
By Smoke	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	39
By Water	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	7
By Coloured Water	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	15
By Breaking Down	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	8
Ashes Receptacles	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	190
Samples of Milk procured for :—							
Chemical Analysis	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	531
Biological Examination	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	87
Bacterial Content	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	99
Phosphatase Test	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	6
Samples of Ice Cream for Bacteriological Examination	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	5
Samples of Other Food and Drugs under the Food and Drugs							
(Adulteration) Act, 1928, etc.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	230
Samples of Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	11
Samples of Sewage for Analysis	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	—
Samples of Water procured	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	25
Conversions	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	—
Insufficient Water Supply	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	—
Smoke Observations	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
Visits to Glass Works (Straw Sterilisation)	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	21
Enquiries re Brokers' Licences	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	6
Visits to work in progress (P.H. Acts, Housing Acts, Conversions, etc.)	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	13700
Rag Flock Acts	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	—
Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	104
Pigstyes	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	4
Miscellaneous Visits	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1879
							28328
ADDITIONAL VISITS ARISING OUT OF THE PRESENT EMERGENCY							
Air Raid Shelters	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	805
Production of Extra Smoke	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	367
Billets	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	507
Houses used for the reception of War Refugees	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	55
Shops—re protection of foodstuffs against poison gas	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	615
							30677

TABLE 21.

Number of defects for which notices were served during 1940, and results.

Subject of Notice	Pre-liminary Notices	Statutory Notices	Number complied with	Number outstanding at end of year	Prosecutions
Ditches requiring cleansing	9	—	11	3	—
Defective drains	238	100	212	55	—
Insufficient surface water drainage	—	—	—	—	—
Choked drains	250	30	221	39	—
Insufficient closet accommodation	—	—	3	10	—
Absence of proper sink	19	21	28	34	—
Defective water closets	177	73	161	22	—
Defective pail closets	—	—	—	1	—
Defective privy middens	—	—	—	2	—
Defective gullies and dishstones	40	16	39	9	—
Defective sink waste pipes	114	74	109	25	—
Defective W.C. cisterns and flushing fittings	156	61	113	59	—
Defective urinals	—	—	—	—	—
Defective soil pipes	5	—	4	22	—
Sink waste pipes connected with drains	1	—	1	—	—
Yards and passages unpaved	—	—	1	10	—
Defective yard paving	57	43	91	1	—
Dampness arising from :—					
Defective roofs	514	309	414	249	—
Defective eavesgutters	1126	472	1078	85	—
Defective downspouts	221	130	218	69	—
Defective external pointing	197	147	164	68	—
Insufficient lighting of rooms	—	—	—	—	—
Insufficient ventilation of rooms	1	5	7	4	—
Absence of ventilated foodstores	—	—	1	2	—
Unventilated foodstore	—	—	—	6	—
Insufficient water supply	1	—	1	—	—
Defective manure middensteads	—	—	—	—	—
Dwelling houses to be whitewashed	—	—	—	—	—
Defective chimney flues	56	30	44	46	—
Defective ashpits or dustbins to be repaired	65	4	29	63	—
Defective ashpits to be abolished	4	—	5	341	—
Galvanised Metal Dust Bins to be provided	39	21	60	101	—
Defective window sash-frames and sashcords	187	147	214	53	—
Defective floors	122	113	143	52	—
Defective stairs	5	5	13	2	—
Defective internal plaster-work	232	171	212	51	—
Defective fireplaces	143	106	153	34	—
Defective washboilers	71	52	73	19	—
Defective doors, cupboards, &c.	171	95	193	24	—
Defective gas pipes and fittings	2	1	2	—	—
Defective water pipes and fittings	1	—	1	—	—
Defective yard division walls	31	28	60	3	—
Dangerous and defective chimney stacks	108	37	116	18	—
Fractured internal walls	12	5	7	34	—
Defective and bulging external walls	71	36	68	17	—
Filthy condition of premises	34	5	24	40	—
Accumulation of manure or offensive matter	22	4	13	23	—
Keeping of animals, &c.	1	—	1	—	—

Table 21.—Continued.

Miscellaneous	93	42	113	67	—
Contraventions of :—					
Milk and Dairies Order, 1926	47	—	35	12	—
Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1936	—	—	—	—	—
Public Health (Condensed Milk) Regulations, 1923 and 1927	—	—	—	—	—
Artificial Cream Act, 1929	—	—	—	—	—
Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924	11	—	11	—	—
Merchandise Marks Act, 1926	21	—	21	—	—
Public Health (Preservatives, &c. in Food) Regulations	—	—	—	—	—
Factories Act, 1937	39	—	21	68	—
Shops Act, 1934	29	—	20	53	—
Contraventions of Bye-laws :—					
Common Lodging Houses	—	—	—	—	—
Houses-let-in-lodgings	—	—	—	—	—
Tents, vans, sheds	—	—	—	—	—
Slaughterhouses	—	—	—	—	—
Prevention of Nuisances	—	—	—	—	—
Drainage of existing buildings	—	—	—	—	—
Food and Drugs Act, 1938	128	—	128	—	—
	4871	2383	4657	1896	—

Referred to other Departments.

Choked Street Gullies, &c., reported to Borough Engineer	37
Waste of water reported to Water Department	282
Dangerous structures reported to Borough Engineer	16
Escapes of Coal Gas reported to Gas Engineer	19
Choked Sewers reported to Borough Engineer	25
Insufficient water supply reported to Water Engineer	4
Unauthorised Erections reported to Borough Engineer	—
Choked Drains, etc. reported to Borough Engineer (Corporation property)	9
Housing Defects reported to Housing Agent	31

During the year, 459 complaints of choked drains were made to the Department. Of this number, 341 drains were freed from obstruction by members of the staff of the sanitary department, thus obviating the necessity for serving notices upon the owners.

SMOKE ABATEMENT.—As in previous years observations on atmospheric pollution were carried out with the deposit gauge situated in the yard of the school clinic, Cloughton Street.

Very little action was taken by the Department during the year regarding excessive emissions of black smoke.

FACTORIES.—No defects were reported by H.M. Inspector of Factories during the year.

Table 22 gives particulars of the administrative action taken by the Sanitary Department.

Table 22.

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health, including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors.

Premises	Number of		
	Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
FACTORIES with mechanical power	553	14	Nil
FACTORIES without mechanical power	326	7	Nil
OTHER PREMISES under the Act (including works of building and engineering construction but not including outworkers' premises)	40	Nil	Nil
TOTAL	919	21	Nil

2. Defects Found.

Particulars.	Number of Defects.			Number of defects in respect of which Prosecutions were instituted.
	Found.	Remedied.	Referred to H.M. Inspector.	
Want of cleanliness	22	18	—	—
Overcrowding	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences :—				
Insufficient	—	—	—	—
Unsuitable or defective.....	7	5	—	—
Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—
Other offences	10	7	—	—
TOTAL	39	30	Nil	Nil

3. Outwork in unwholesome premises, Section 111—Nil.

Outworkers.—No lists of outworkers were received from employers during the year.

PREMISES AND OCCUPATIONS WHICH CAN BE CONTROLLED BY BYELAWS OR REGULATIONS.

Offensive Trades.—There are 6 offensive trades in the Borough, consisting of 4 tripe boilers, 1 gut scraper and 1 rag and bone dealer.

During the year 79 visits were paid to premises of this nature.

Tents, Vans, Sheds, Etc.—One caravan was demolished by the Local Authority during the year as a result of action taken under the Housing Act, 1936.

So far as is known to the Department there are now no tents, vans or sheds in the Borough which are being used for human habitation.

Camping Sites.—There are no sites in St. Helens which are used as camping sites, nor have any licences been granted by the Council authorising the use of any land or moveable dwellings for camping purposes.

Houses-Let-in-Lodgings.—There are at present 5 premises known to the Department to be used as houses-let-in-lodgings.

58 visits were paid to these premises during the year.

Common Lodging Houses.—The number of premises registered as Common Lodging Houses at the end of the year was 5.

All registered premises were regularly inspected and 127 visits were paid for this purpose.

Byelaws with Respect to Nuisances.—These Byelaws, which were obtained in 1930, deal with the prevention of nuisances arising from snow, filth, dust, ashes and rubbish, and for the prevention of the keeping of animals on any premises so as to be injurious to health.

The byelaws have proved very effective for the control of pig-keeping. There were 69 persons in the Borough known to be engaged in the keeping of pigs at the end of the year.

OTHER SANITARY CONDITIONS.—Rats and Mice Destruction Act, 1919.—36 complaints of infestation of premises by rats were received during the year. As in previous years it was found that the chief cause of infestation was either defective drains or sewers in the neighbourhood of the premises concerned. When these defects were made good, no further complaints were received.

Shops Act, 1934.—This Act places upon the Sanitary Authority the duty of enforcing the provisions of the Act relating to the ventilation and temperature of shops and the provision of sanitary conveniences.

By arrangement with the Committee responsible for the general administration of the Shops Act, the Sanitary Department in St. Helens also takes responsibility for those provisions of the Act relating to lighting, washing facilities and facilities for the taking of meals.

A total of 137 visits were paid to shop premises during 1940.

Offices.—During the year 40 visits were paid to office premises in the Borough. These premises were found to be in a generally satisfactory condition and taking the standard of overcrowding of 250 cubic feet per person, no overcrowding was found to exist.

Places of Public Entertainment.—63 visits were paid to places of public entertainment during 1940. The condition of these premises throughout the year was found to be generally satisfactory.

Canal Boats.—There is only one canal in St. Helens, viz., the St. Helens Canal, and this has not been used for traffic for a number of years.

Mortuaries.—A public mortuary with post-mortem room is maintained behind the Town Hall, and is under the supervision of the Medical Officer of Health. During the year 65 bodies were received into the mortuary, and 33 post-mortem examinations were conducted.

Arrangements for the Disposal of the Dead.—There was no alteration during the year in these arrangements.

Swimming Baths.—Indoor swimming baths, situate in Boundary Road, are maintained by the Corporation. There are two plunge baths and the method of purification of the water is by means of continuous filtration and chlorination.

Three samples of water from the swimming baths at Boundary Road were taken by the Department for bacteriological examination during 1940, and the following are the results of the examinations :—

<i>Bacteria per c.c.</i>			
	37° C.	22° C.	<i>B. Coli</i> (<i>presumptive</i>) in 100 c.c.
Sample No. 79	1800	6400	6
Sample No. 80	Nil	Nil	Absent
Sample No. 81	Nil	Nil	Absent

These findings show the water to be commendably satisfactory for bathing purposes.

The Rag Flock Acts, 1911 and 1918.—No sample of rag flock was taken during the year.

Sanitary Condition of Schools.—During 1940 there were 42 public elementary schools with 79 departments in the Borough.

Conditions in Council schools are on the whole good, all these being of fairly recent construction. In some of the older schools, however, pail closets are still in existence, whilst in others trough closets with automatic flushing cisterns are still being used. I would urge that wherever possible the remainder of the unsatisfactory types of closets should be replaced.

XIV.—HOUSING.

STATISTICS.—Of the 105 houses erected during 1940, 36 were erected by the Local Authority and 69 by private or commercial enterprise.

Table 23 shows the number of dwelling-houses erected in each ward since 1918.

Table 23.

The wards of the borough in which dwelling-houses have been erected during the years mentioned.

Year	North Eccles- ton	South Eccles- ton	Central	North Windle	South Windle	Hard- shaw	East Sutton	West Sutton	Parr	Total
1918	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	3
1919	—	1	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	4
1920	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1921	—	1	—	41	—	—	—	6	—	48
1922	—	1	—	164	—	—	—	—	—	165
1923	1	5	2	2	—	2	—	33	—	45
1924	2	24	—	25	—	—	2	45	5	103
1925	8	76	—	90	—	1	9	48	15	247
1926	19	172	—	106	16	4	19	63	51	450
1927	33	189	—	125	3	68	160	14	56	648
1928	12	116	3	237	5	2	97	13	335	820
1929	4	219	—	35	—	21	26	5	185	495
1930	24	148	1	39	—	53	41	3	54	363
1931	79	61	—	52	1	15	45	29	17	299
1932	449	77	1	10	—	27	69	37	3	673
1933	115	56	2	20	—	34	69	1	46	343
*1934	41	43	—	52	—	20	100	13	74	343
1935	74	238	4	104	3	32	133	59	85	732
1936	27	72	24	144	2	37	121	56	239	722
1937	8	196	19	59	7	44	194	102	115	744
1938	44	256	113	185	2	8	152	176	239	1175
1939	2	47	25	158	5	11	70	79	35	432
1940	1	12	—	56	—	—	16	14	6	105

*Ward boundaries altered.

A statement as to the number of houses erected with and without State assistance, together with a summary of the work of the department in regard to housing, is given in Table 24.

Table 24.

Housing.

Number of new houses erected during the year :—

(a) Total (including numbers given separately under (b))	105
(b) With State assistance under the Housing Acts :	
(i) By the Local Authority	36
(ii) By private or commercial enterprise	—
(c) Without State Assistance under the Housing Acts :	
(i) By the Local Authority.....	—
(ii) By private or commercial enterprise.....	69

1.—Inspection of dwelling-houses during the year :—

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	2579
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose.....	16279
(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	32
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	131
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation.....	nil.
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation.....	2567

2.—Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices :—

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers.....	1778
--	------

3.—Action under Statutory powers during the year :—

A.—Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

- | | |
|--|------|
| (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs..... | nil. |
| (2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :— | |
| (a) By owners | nil. |
| (b) By Local Authority in default of owners..... | nil. |

B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—

- | | |
|--|------|
| (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied | 646 |
| (2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :— | |
| (a) By owners | 495 |
| (b) By Local Authority in default of owners..... | nil. |

C.—Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

- | | |
|--|------|
| (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made..... | nil. |
| (2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders..... | 8 |

D.—Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

- | | |
|---|------|
| (1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made | nil. |
| (2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit | nil. |

4.—Housing Act, 1936—Part IV. Overcrowding :—

A.	(i) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	1148
	(ii) Number of families dwelling therein	1363
	(iii) Number of persons dwelling therein	9567
B.	Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	93
C.	(i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	11
	(ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases	49
D.	Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding	nil.
E.	Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions upon which the Medical Officer of Health may consider it desirable to report	nil.

SLUM CLEARANCE.—Owing to the present war conditions no houses were dealt with under slum clearance schemes during the year.

Re-housing.—The present sites allocated for slum clearance purposes provide accommodation for 4,736 persons in 964 houses, and from the commencement of re-housing to the end of the year 3,914 persons had been re-housed in 906 houses.

Table 25 shows the sites allocated and the accommodation provided. It might be noted that in regard to the sites at Sorogold Street and East Lancashire Road the figures of accommodation provided differ somewhat from those published in previous reports. This has been caused by a readjustment of the allocation at these sites.

TABLE 25.

Name of Site	Numbers and Types of Houses erected or to be erected					Total	Providing Accommodation for persons	
	2-bedroomed	3-bedroomed	4-bedroomed	Aged Persons				
* Hardshaw Brook	6	20	6	—		32	166	
* Rivington Road	16	42	2	—		60	288	
* Gaskell Street	20	38	8	—		66	326	
* Virgil Street	—	2	—	—		2	10	
* Simms Avenue	8	20	—	—		28	132	
* Boardmans Lane	6	22	6	—		34	176	
* Sorogold Street	10	6	4	22		42	142	
	1- bedroomed		3- bedroomed		4- bedroomed		5- bedroomed	
	1 person	2 persons	5 persons	6 persons	7 persons	8 persons	9 persons	
							10 persons	
† Crossley Road	—	—	44	10	2	4	—	60
† Grange Park	—	12	138	28	12	10	4	208
† Marsden Avenue	—	6	22	2	—	2	—	32
† Sutton Manor	—	—	34	4	—	—	—	40
† Ramford Street	12	8	118	18	8	6	—	172
† Princess Avenue	16	24	—	—	—	—	—	40
Greenbank	—	—	38	14	—	—	—	52
East Lancashire Road	4	4	68	—	14	4	2	96
Totals						964	4736	

* Houses erected in accordance with the standard laid down by the Housing Act, 1923.
† Houses erected or to be erected in accordance with the standard suggested in the Ministry of Health Circular 1539, dated 7th May, 1936.

Rent and Mortgage Interest Restrictions Acts, 1920-1938.—During the year 21 applications were received from tenants for sanitary certificates under the Rent and Mortgage Interest Restrictions Acts. Certificates were granted in each case and 11 certificates previously granted were rescinded.

DISINFESTATION OF PREMISES AND HOUSEHOLD EFFECTS.—During the year one Council house was reported by the Housing Department to be infested with bed bugs. This was sprayed with a liquid insecticide, viz. Zaldecide. No houses were fumigated by Hydrocyanic gas.

51 other houses infested with bed bugs also came to the notice of the sanitary staff during the year. Of these, 11 houses were sprayed with Solution “D.” In the remaining 40 instances the tenants were advised as to the best methods of disinfestation, including the periodic fumigation of the rooms with sulphur, and periodic advisory visits were paid by the sanitary staff and the premises kept under observation until free from infestation.

In addition the furniture and household effects from six premises rehoused under slum clearance schemes were in accordance with practice subjected to fumigation by hydrocyanic acid gas before removal into the new houses.

